



Lifestyle

Paddle the (endangered but clean) Ipswich River A3



Sports

Hall of Fame coach Steve Scanlon, will be greatly missed B5W

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Middle School updates on program and culture survey

By LIZZY HILL
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — Middle School Principal Brian Caira and assistant principal Daniel Faircloth provided the School Committee updates on Anti-Defamation League (ADL) participation and Association of Middle Level Education (AMLE) survey results during their Oct. 8 meeting.

Faircloth reminded the committee that the ADL is a non-profit organization founded to combat antisemitism and discrimination. He described that a group of students guided by staff runs the No Place for Hate self-directed program in partnership with the ADL. Their aim is to make the environment conducive to learning and inclusivity and to change the middle school culture.

Over the last year, they completed three activi-

ties and set leadership groups for the various events with their subcommittees. One of the activities was called "Humans of Wilmington Middle School," wherein students shared Instagram videos about things that bothered them at school.

Faircloth went on to explain that there is a staff committee involved made up of four teachers and himself. These teachers are Kate Lerner, Jaclyn Madden, Amy-Marie Lightfoot-Taylor, and Shannon Keeley. Faircloth shared excitement about the direction in which they want to see the group go.

While last year they wanted to include mainly 8th graders and fewer 7th and 6th graders in the group, he said that this year they plan to allow more younger students who will continue in the group for multiple years. Faircloth added that they would aim for a group of

24 students with a maximum of 30 and a minimum of 10.

Faircloth mentioned that a staff member at the ADL supported them in recognizing that they were still learning. He shared the pledge created by the students last year: to respect and understand those who are different; to challenge prejudice, bias, and discrimination; to act as an ally for those targeted by hate, bullying, and bias; to help others feel included, respected, and treated fairly; and to help make the school no place for hate.

David Ragsdale commented on the student composition that they shouldn't have too few sixth graders where they feel uncomfortable. Faircloth agreed that the proposed student makeup could be adjusted.

Stephen Turner shared appreciation for Fair-

cloth's leadership and involvement in the group. He suggested that eighth grade students who participate in No Place for Hate could bring the culture to the high school.

Nicholas Golden praised Faircloth's efforts to get the students involved.

Dr. Mike Mercaldi said that this program is an important supplement to education.

Chair Jesse Fennelly noted that this program was already making an impact in school culture.

Principal Brian Caira next shared the results of the AMLE survey at the middle school answered by students, families, and staff. He explained that the AMLE is accredited nationally to determine the successfulness of a middle school. The survey scores the school within the areas of culture and community; curriculum instruction, and assessment; and lea-

dership and organization.

Per the plan made years before, they conducted the survey in 2022 and again this past year. Caira also described that the results show not only the mean scores but also the standard deviation between scores, where a lower standard deviation shows that the individual scores are close together.

This year's survey was answered by 514 students, 117 parents and 90 staff. Overall, the results showed that between 2022 and 2025, the mean scores increased and the standard deviation decreased. Some of the student and family view takeaways noted were that students had a more consistent experience and knowledge of behavior expectations.

Among their key recommendations were expanding advisory and adult advocate training, improving trauma-informed practices, ensur-

ing equitable access to learning opportunities, developing long-term student-staff relationships, and growing community partnerships.

Families showed a perception of improvement in all three scoring areas at the school. The results generally displayed notable improvement through concerted effort.

In the area of culture and community, the scores came back high this year compared to moderate in 2022. Some of the strengths identified were advisory, family engagement, and safety, and areas to focus included community and business partnership.

The scores for curriculum and instruction remained high from 2022 to 2025. The strengths noted in this area were content expertise, assessments, and active learning, and

SURVEY | PAGE A7W

School Committee receives staffing updates

By LIZZY HILL
News Correspondent

WILMINGTON — On Wednesday, Oct. 8, the School Committee received updates on the interim superintendent's entry plan, staffing, and subcommittees and took votes on staffing and nominees for various items.

Interim Superintendent Dr. David Thomson delivered the superintendent's report that night. He first described his plan to spend 3-4 hours at each of the schools in town interacting with students and staff. He'd conducted a few of these sessions already at the Wildwood, Boutwell and North Intermediate schools and would move onto the Shawsheen and West schools the following week.

He also planned to talk to each principal about their goals and how he could support them.

Thomson reported that he completed about 45 percent of his scheduled interviews with stakeholders as part of his entry plan. He met with central office staff, town board members, public safety representatives, and members of parent groups including Parents and Guardian Advocates for Wilmington Schools and the Wilmington Educational Foundation.

He highlighted that October is National Principals'

Month and thanked the district's leaders.

Thomson lastly announced the resignation of North Intermediate Principal Diane Carreiro. He shared that Carreiro was moving onto a new position in Lawrence. He also said that their plan would be to hire an interim principal for the rest of the school year and search for a permanent principal in early 2026.

Dr. Mike Mercaldi said he was sad to see Carreiro leave, although it seemed like a great opportunity that she was stepping into. Thomson agreed that she had done an incredible job.

Stephen Turner and David Ragsdale also thanked Carreiro for her leadership and knowledge in the MSBA project as the principal of the school at the site where the new school was going.

Chair Jesse Fennelly asked about the proposed timeline for hiring. Thomson replied that they would post the interim position for a short period so that they could select a new candidate before Carreiro leaves.

Thomson next presented information on occupational therapy staffing. He stated that this has been provided through an outside contractor who notified the district that the agency would be closing. In their search for a replacement agency, they learned that their previous contractor was extremely inexpensive compared to others.

For that reason, Thomson requested that they seek to move occupational therapy staff within the district to create another



Next time, just knock

Wilmington Police responded Friday afternoon when a vehicle left the roadway and struck a fence, a parked vehicle, and a home. On Friday, Oct. 10, at approximately 3:45 p.m., the Wilmington Police Department was called to the area of 49 Salem St., for a report of a crash. A preliminary investigation determined that a Honda CR-V driven by an adult female left the roadway in the area of 49 Salem St., went through a fence, struck a parked vehicle, and then struck a home. The driver suffered minor injuries as a result of the crash and was transported to a local hospital. The home sustained significant damage, but no one was inside at the time. The cause of the crash remains under investigation by Wilmington Police. (WPD Courtesy photo)

Woburn City Council OKs downsized Presidential Way redevelopment plan near Wilmington line

By PATRICK BLAIS

WOBURN — Given that the project is far less impactful than what was approved several years ago, the City Council last week quickly OK'd a proposed office building expansion for Lahey Health Systems off of Presidential Way by the Wilmington line.

During their latest gathering in City Hall, the City Council voted unanimously and without debate to grant Presidential Ventures LLC permission to construct a 20,000 square foot office

building on a portion of a 14-acre parcel at 8 Presidential Way that sits next to the American Tower headquarters property by I-93.

Appearing on behalf of the petitioner, local attorney James Mawn, who is also the CEO of Woburn Bank & Trust, explained that back in 2020, Presidential Ventures obtained permission to construct a much larger four-story addition that would be used by major building tenant Beth Israel Lahey Health (BILH), which also owns Winchester Hospital.

Never breaking ground on that project, Lahey Health Systems is now looking for permission to move ahead with a smaller two-story addition that will be used by its billing, information technology and home health service offices.

"You may recall this project was before the council a short while ago. At that time, this council voted to approve a 60,000 square foot addition," Mawn explained at the outset of last week's hearing. "After the approval, the petitioner entered into negotiations with

the tenant of this existing building and for a myriad of reasons, the project did not move forward."

"The project depicted on the screen before you this evening compiles with every aspect of the zoning ordinance," the local lawyer later said of the smaller 20,000 addition that is now planned.

According to civil engineer Brian Jones, whose firm was hired by the special permit applicant, the project calls for a substantial reduction in

PLAN | PAGE A7W

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Wilmington Library News:

Music and More with Miss Bernadette on Saturday, Oct. 25

Adult Programs

Drop-in Tech Help

Tuesday, October 21, 2pm
Wednesday, October 22, 2pm
Thursday, October 23, 2pm
Saturday, October 25, 2pm
Have a tech question that's been bugging you? Stop by Drop-in Tech Help.

Pumpkin Painting

Thursday, October 23, 6:30pm

Come paint a mini pumpkin at the library. We'll have apple cider, candy, and a spooky soundtrack playing to get you into the Halloween spirit!

Needleworkers

Friday, October 24, 10am-12pm

This is a social group for those who do any kind of needle craft. Bring your knitting, crocheting, quilting, etc. and enjoy conversation and camaraderie. Drop-in.

Youth Programs

Wilmington Community Playgroup

Monday, October 20, 10am
Join Community Teamwork Family Resource Network for a community playgroup where we'll work on Early Literacy skills and much, much more! Ask CTI about any resources they can help provide for you and your family. Ages 0-6, siblings welcome

College Essay Workshop

Tuesday, October 21, 6pm

In this workshop, led by professional college essay consultant Jenn Bryson, we will review the writing process, discuss the elements of a successful application essay, and peer edit essays. Grades 9-12

Monster Mash Halloween Bash

Wednesday, October 22, 4pm

Come celebrate Halloween (a little early) with WML! Wear your costume and come by for a wacky evening of Halloween games and activities! Join us at 5pm for a walk around the library to show off your costumes for the annual costume contest! Open to kids ages 0-11

Spooky Foil Light-Up Bookmarks

Thursday, October 23, 3:30pm



▲ Join early childhood educator Bernadette Baird for singing, dancing, instrument play, and storytime at a fun and relaxing family event on Oct. 25 at 9:30 a.m.!

Get ready for Halloween by making gilded bookmarks with spooky designs! We'll add LEDs and circuits to make them light up! Grades 6-12

Teen Leadership Council

Friday, October 24, 3pm
Are you interested in advocating for what you want at WML? Have you volunteered before, but want to commit to more? Join our Teen Leadership Council! Grades 7-12

Music and More with Miss Bernadette

Saturday, October 25, 9:30am

Join Early Childhood Educator Bernadette Baird for singing, dancing, instrument play and storytime in this fun and relaxing family event! Ages 0-4

Additional Information

Save the Date!
Mark your calendars for an evening with author

and local sportscaster Michael Holley, on May 14! A Boston sports journalist, author and broadcaster, Michael Holley hosts shows on NBC Sports Boston and 98.5 The Sports Hub, while teaching at Boston University. A former Boston Globe journalist, he's also appeared on ESPN and Peacock. There will be a cash bar, book sales & autograph signing. This is a free event, open to all.

Check Out Our Library of Things

Did you know Wilmington Memorial Library circulates more than just books? Check out our Adult, Teen and Youth Library of Things for fun and useful items to take home. Items include: colorblind glasses, a karaoke machine, a crochet kit, board games, a food dehydrator, a tent and much more! See what's available at <https://wilmingtonlibrary.org/lot/>.

Book Store Next Door
Regular hours are back at The Book Store Next Door! The bookstore is open Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Museum Passes

The library has discounted passes to your favorite Massachusetts museums, attractions, and state parks. Find the full list by visiting www.wilmingtonlibrary.org/services/mp.

www.wilmingtonlibrary.org/services/mp.

WML In-Person & Virtual Programming
Registration is required for most in-person programs and is required for

all virtual programs, as you will need to register in order to receive the Zoom link. You can register on our website at www.wilmingtonlibrary.org or by calling (978) 658-2967.

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It's Your Money
by Todd BrisboisFACTS TO
KNOW ABOUT
THE ABLE ACT:

PART II

Qualified disability expenses: States can offer ABLE accounts to help people who become disabled before age 26 or if their families pay for certain disability-related expenses. Though contributions aren't deductible for federal tax purposes, distributions — including earnings — are tax-free to the beneficiary if the taxpayer pays for a qualified disability expense.

The designated beneficiary of an ABLE account is the eligible individual who owns the ABLE account. The beneficiary must be:

- receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) based on blindness or disability that began before age 26;
- in SSI suspense due solely to excess income or resources but otherwise eligible for SSI based on blindness or disability that began before age 26;
- receiving disability insurance benefits (DIB), childhood disability benefits (CDB), or widow's with disabilities or widower's benefits (DWB) based on blindness or disability that began before age 26; or
- the subject of a disability certification.

A disability certification, to be signed by the individual or someone else establishing the ABLE account for the individual certifies that the individual is blind or has a physical or mental impairment that results in marked and severe functional limitations and that such blindness or disability began before age 26, and includes a certification that the individual has a copy of the diagnosis relating to their relevant impairment(s), signed by a physician.

Conditions on SSA's "List of Compassionate Allowances Conditions" are deemed to meet the requirements for filing a disability certification if the condition was present and produced marked and severe functional limitations before the individual attained age 26.

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Book release and signing and
Toys for Tots collection

WILMINGTON — Sheldon Goldberg, the author of the critically acclaimed novels, "The Last Fall" and "After The Bell" has released a new sequel called "The Family Business," and a special book launch event has been announced for Sunday, Oct. 19, 2025 from 1 to 3 p.m. at West Real Estate, 386

Main St. in Wilmington. "The Family Business" follows Rick Pacheco and Great Western Wrestling as they navigate the post-pandemic resurgence of professional wrestling, developing new wrestling stars and grappling with the complicated legacies of wrestling families, whose views of the business vastly

differ from one generation to another.

This is Goldberg's fourth novel. All the books are part of a series.

At the book launch event, the author will be appearing to sign copies of his new book, as well as his previous novels. A signed copy of "The Family Business" is available for just \$20, and a

complimentary gift will be included with your purchase while supplies last.

West Real Estate will also be collecting new, unwrapped toys for the USMC Toys for Tots Foundation.

Light refreshments will be served at the event.

News and notes from WCTV

Hello friends and neighbors! Here's what's going on at WCTV!

NEW PROGRAMMING
JUST FOR YOU!Where's Wilmington
Episode 193 —
Shift Compost

On this episode, host Lisa Kapala-Egan chats with Nicholas Doyle of Shift Compost about making the "shift" to composting items in our homes and the tremendous impact adding this habit to our routine can and does make globally. Nicholas also

shows us items which can and can't be composted.

Crafts 'n' Stuff
Episode 51 —
Soap Carving

Host Rachelle is joined by special guest: Darren from the New England Wood Carvers to teach her and viewers all about soap carving basics and safety, ahead of the Spirit of Wood festival coming to Wilmington next weekend! Learn how to carve your own soap gnome, what knives are the most effective, and all about the upcoming event on episode

51 of Crafts 'n' Stuff!

*These programs can be viewed on WCTV channels or on WCTV's Youtube channel: WCTVWilmington.

Meetings covered
by WCTV:
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Access Channel: Verizon 38, Comcast 6.

To watch programs On-Demand or for more information check us out at WCTV.org.

WCTV is located at 10 Waltham Street, Wilmington

Office hours by appointment: (978) 657-4066.

Questions about WCTV? Contact: info@wctv.

Lifestyle



▲▼ The Ipswich River gives paddlers a chance to be fully immersed in New England nature. (Rosalyn Impink photos)

Paddle the (endangered but clean) IPSWICH RIVER

By ROSALYN IMPINK
News Correspondent

Take advantage of the beautiful fall weather and explore one of the state's best ecological resources — the Ipswich River. This calm, meandering river winds its way through classic North Shore landscapes and offers endless recreation opportunities. The Ipswich River flows for about 40 miles from Wilmington to Reading, North Reading, Middleton, Peabody, Topsfield, and Hamilton, before reaching Ipswich and emptying to Ipswich Bay and the Atlantic Ocean. The river was a

lifeline for indigenous communities, and later helped power the industrial revolution on the North Shore.

Today, the Ipswich River provides drinking water to over 300,000 people in 14 communities, but withdrawal of water from the watershed basin has exceeded sustainable levels, leading to the Ipswich being named one of the most endangered rivers in the country — twice. Despite drought conditions and inadequate groundwater reserves, conservation and restoration efforts continue, and the river is one of the cleanest in the state.

The Ipswich River Watershed Association is a ma-

major advocacy group for the river, conducting environmental restoration, monitoring water quality, lobbying for clean water rules at the state and local level, and providing public education. The nonprofit organization, founded in 1977, brings together passionate volunteers, environmental scientists, and community stakeholders to address issues facing the river today and in the future.

Association members enjoy annual access to kayaks, canoes, paddles, and lifejackets, as well as a boat launch, at the IRWA headquarters in Ipswich from May to October, and public events are hosted

throughout the year. The IRWA provides critical flow monitoring for the river, operating two real-time streamflow gauges that are reported to the US Geological Survey.

Paddling on the river opens a gateway to the unique flora and fauna of the region. The peace and quiet makes for a birder's paradise, with Canada geese, mallard ducks, and cormorants seeking out their next meal in the muddy depths. If you're lucky, your patience will be rewarded with a sighting of the majestic great blue heron — these elegant birds boast an impressive wingspan.

Be sure to keep an eye on the craggy logs dotting the river's edge — that bump you see might actually be a turtle basking in the sunshine. These reptiles scare easily, and they may plop themselves back into the water if you get too close.

There is no shortage of conservation land to explore along the river. The Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary, managed by the Massachusetts Audubon Association, contains nearly 2,000 acres of protected land and offers twelve miles of trails to explore. The Essex County Greenbelt Association also provides water access in Topsfield at the David Lampert and Thomas Sanders Reservations.

Ipswich has a charming downtown to explore, melding industrial history with plenty of unique shops. The town's riverwalk gives boat-shy visitors a chance to get up close to the Ipswich River and view remnants of the area's former mills.

For more information, visit the Ipswich River Watershed Association at www.ipswichriver.org, and Mass Audubon at www.massaudubon.org/placesto-explore/wildlife-sanctuaries/ipswich-river for hours and admission.



Upcoming local events

October 17, Silvertones Swing Band, 7 - 10 p.m., Tewksbury Senior Center. Doors open at 6:30, \$10 per person. Bring Your Own Snacks, Coffee and Tea provided and cake after second intermission.

October 19, Fall-O-Ween, Tewksbury's second annual free family fun event, 1-4 p.m. on the town common. Pumpkin decorating, exotic animals, trunk or treat and more. To participate in the Trunk or Treat, contact alowder@tewbury-ma.gov

October 25, Mini clean up, Tewksbury Beautification Committee, 9 - 10 a.m.

Meet at 553 Main St. Bags provided.

October 25, Applefest, TMHS, Crafts, food, raffles, fun. The area's largest craft fair. Get your holiday shopping done! 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Free admission.

October 25, 2025, iPods for Veterans hosted by Lisa Downey, Veteran Services Director in Tewksbury, Tewksbury Senior Center. Tewksbury Veterans are welcome to come down and enjoy lunch and meet with other veterans. A free gift will be provided for all veterans. Raffles for Laptops, iPods, TVs, and tablets.

Please contact the Veterans Services office at 978-640-4485 to make your reservation.

October 26, An EGGCEPTIONAL BREAKFAST, 8:30 a.m. - noon. Tewksbury Senior Center. No reservations required, just drop in and chat with family, friends and neighbors. \$10 adults | \$5 children under 10.

November 8, Texas Hold 'Em at TJ Callahan's to support VFW Post 8164 scholarship and Patriot's Pen Essay. 1 p.m. Capped at 50 players. \$100 each includes buffet lunch.

Public Health Museum, Thursdays and Saturdays,

10 a.m. - 2 p.m., 365 East St. on the campus of Tewksbury Hospital. PublicHealthMuseum.org

Book Store Next Door, Saturdays, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. The Book Store is staffed by volunteers from the Friends of the Wilmington

Public Library. All proceeds support library programs. Next to Wilmington Public Library.

Sundays, Lowell Streetcar Museum, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., Adults \$3, seniors and youth age 3-12 \$2, children under 3 are free. Cash only. 25 Shattuck St., Lowell.

Wilmington Town Museum, Mondays and Tuesdays, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Harnden Tavern, 430 Salem St. (Route 62), Wilmington

Middlesex Canal Museum, Saturdays and Sundays, noon - 4 p.m., 71 Faulkner St., North Billerica

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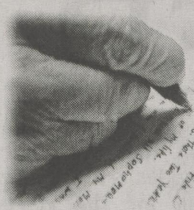
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Letters to the editor

Resident expresses many concerns over battery site

To the editor,
I am ALARMED and concerned a large lithium battery storage facility, 166 units, each the size of a tractor trailer or cargo freight container, is being proposed at 73-75 Hillman St. in Tewksbury, a couple hundred feet away from homes, assisted living residences, over 55 residences, several schools with over 3,000 students, day-cares, a hazardous materials rail line, and adjacent to the Great Tewksbury Swamp wetlands which drain into the Merrimack River which provides drinking water for over 600,000 people.

This site is adjacent to many homes, one being only 52' from the planned site. The BayBerry Assisted Living and Memory Unit has a huge number of invalid residents who are wheelchair bound or use walkers and canes. The Emerald Court is a 55 plus housing complex.

These huge complexes have hundreds of residents and the complex is at the end of a single street adjacent to the lithium ion battery site that would be blocked with no way out to any way for emergency vehicles to evacuate them if there was to be a fire. Evacuations for lithium ion battery fires is up to 3 miles!

These are people only a few hundred feet away. Residents were told by the Developer Hillman Energy Center, subsidiary of VA based East Point Energy, they would not be able to be evacuated, they should "shelter in place" for the 3-5 days that the fire would burn and emit toxic chemicals, flames and smoke. These are vulnerable and at risk residents who would not survive the toxic fumes and groundwater contamination.

If there were to be a fire, and there is a global history of these being environmental disasters when they explode, there are several hundred families trapped and unable to be evacuated. How would we evacuate the large 3-story day-care center 1/4 mile away, or the 3,000 students less than one mile away of the 300 residents in Roper Estates also less than one mile away and the many thousands of residents within the 1-3 mile evacuation radius?

How would we ever recover from the toxic fumes and chemicals that would flow thru the Tewksbury Great Swamp wetlands and directly in the Merrimack River? We have town wells in the area as well!! Would we ever recover?!!

Is this another Woburn WR Grace in the making? Sounds like it could be.

These fires can not be extinguished with water. They need foam and the

only foam truck is in Boston, more than 30 miles away. The Emergency Response Team is in Texas!!!! There would be no one site monitoring the units. They will be in Virginia!!

These facilities have a serious risk of toxic smoke, fire, and contamination if something goes wrong and our first responders aren't equipped to fight battery fires safely.

Tewksbury is not opposed to clean energy. But this site would create an environmental nightmare for humans and our environment that we might never recover from. And the fact Hillman Energy and East Point are looking for five waivers from our town tells you it's NOT the right place for this build.

Important to note: East Point Energy has a history of building these sites and selling them for profit fairly quickly. This is a money grab for East Point Energy. It's all about just getting this built to get the cash even if it means putting it in a dangerous location.

This is being railroaded to beat two bills pending in the MA Senate & House Bill #S2325 which would prohibit any lithium ion facility to be constructed within 2000' of a residence and bill #HD 4558 which is calling for a temporary moratorium on lithium storage facilities.

The state, town and DPU are fast tracking 73-75 Hillman St, Tewksbury, to beat the passing of those bills because if they pass, they will not be able to build on 73-75 Hillman St. Tewksbury because it will be within 52' of residences and 540' of hundreds of seniors and disabled/invalid residents.

Please help Tewksbury residents fight the building of this potential human and environmental disaster. Would appreciate your input either by writing an article in the paper, online, or even news media attention. I believe there are 30 of these lithium plants being planned here in our state due to Gov Healey's push to have this achieved by 2030. I believe there is no concern for loss of life, property or our environment. She just wants it DONE at any cost.

Dozens of letters have been sent by many town residents to local, state and DPU officials with no response except from two, one who will not communicate in emails or allow phone calls with him to be recorded. So they can't be used??

Feel free to call me with questions.

Pat Greene
Tewksbury
Alarmed and concerned
Tewksbury resident



▲ Fire service leaders from across Massachusetts emphasized the importance of working smoke alarms in every home and offered tips on how to choose devices that will offer the best protection while reducing nuisance alarms. (Courtesy photo)

State fire marshal and fire chiefs make statewide push on expired smoke alarms

STOW — State Fire Marshal Jon M. Davine and the Fire Chiefs Association of Massachusetts (FCAM) are teaming up this month to draw attention to a wave of smoke alarms that are nearing the end of their useful lifespans.

In 2015, a change to the Massachusetts Comprehensive Fire Safety Code set a new requirement that replacement smoke alarms in most Massachusetts homes have a sealed, 10-year battery and a "hush" feature. This requirement reduces the likelihood that residents will disable the device after a nuisance alarm from cooking smoke or remove the batteries for use in another device.

The long-life batteries in these alarms are reliable only for 10 years. For that reason, the alarms purchased and put into service by early adopters of this code change may no longer be reliable soon.

"Smoke alarms are like any other appliance — they don't last forever," said Westborough Fire Chief Patrick Purcell, who serves as FCAM President. "Right now, the alarms that were purchased and put into service 10 years ago are

reaching the end of their useful lifespan. Our concern is that a wave of smoke alarms in homes across Massachusetts won't be reliable in the months ahead."

Chief Purcell kicked off the month-long push yesterday at a press conference with State Fire Marshal Davine, Auburn Fire Chief Stephen Coleman, and fire chiefs from across Massachusetts.

"Every smoke alarm should have a manufacturing date printed on the back of the device," said Brockton Fire Chief Brian Nardelli, who serves as FCAM's First Vice President. "If it's more than 10 years old, or if it doesn't have a date, replace it right away. If it's not 10 years old and it takes alkaline batteries, this is a great time to put fresh batteries in to be sure you're protected through the winter."

Chief Nardelli will host a press conference at the Brockton Fire Department on October 9 to promote the smoke alarm safety message for news media in Southeastern Massachusetts.

"When it's time to replace your smoke alarms, we strongly recommend choosing new alarms that meet UL Standard

217, 8th Edition or later," said State Fire Marshal Jon M. Davine. "Look for that language on the packaging or the product specifications. These devices use the latest multi-criteria technology, which helps to prevent nuisance alarms caused by cooking smoke."

"Sealed-battery smoke alarms are powered by lithium-ion batteries, so please don't put them in your household trash or recycling," said Easthampton Fire Chief Christopher Norris, who serves as FCAM's Second Vice President. "If they're crushed or punctured in a compactor truck or a transfer station, they could cause a fire that's very difficult to extinguish. As lithium-ion batteries have become more common, we've started seeing more and more of these trash and transfer station fires, and it's a safe bet that the root cause is battery damage."

Chief Norris will host a third press conference at the Easthampton Fire Department on October 29 to promote the smoke alarm safety message for residents in Western Massachusetts.

Each spring and fall, the Massachusetts fire service reminds residents

to check their smoke and carbon monoxide alarms when they change their clocks. The reminder is especially urgent this year as so many smoke alarms may need to be replaced. The State Fire Marshal's office and Fire Chiefs Association of Massachusetts urge residents to follow these safety tips:

- Check the manufacturing date printed on the back of your smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) alarms

- Replace smoke alarms after 10 years and CO alarms according to the manufacturer's instructions (usually after 5, 7, or 10 years depending on make and model)

- Choose new smoke alarms from a well-known national brand and look for the mark of an independent testing lab such as UL or Intertek/ETL

- Be sure the replacement alarm has a sealed, long-life battery and a hush feature and meets UL Standard 217, 8th Edition or later

Many communities have programs that can assist older or low-income residents who need help installing or maintaining their alarms. Contact your local fire department for more information.

Battery site doesn't belong in residential area

To the editor,
A large lithium battery storage facility is being proposed at 73-75 Hillman Street in Tewksbury, right near homes, assisted living, over 55, schools, day-

cares, and a hazardous materials rail line.

These facilities have a serious risk of toxic smoke, fire, and contamination if something goes wrong and our first responders aren't

equipped to fight battery fires safely.

We're asking residents, local leaders, and the media to help spread awareness and tell the Massachusetts Energy Facilities

Siting Board this project doesn't belong in a residential area. The community's safety must come first.

Thank you,
William Whittemore

Battery site close to homes, schools, emergency services

Dear editor,
I am writing to bring awareness to the proposed lithium-ion battery storage facility at 73-75 Hillman Road in Tewksbury, and my strong opposition against it.

This site is dangerously close to homes, schools, emergency services, and community resources. In the event of a fire, explosion, or toxic smoke release, residents and first responders would face serious health and safety

risks. Evacuation of nearby neighborhoods, including families, seniors, and pets would be difficult and potentially impossible in a fast-moving emergency.

I am especially concerned about the fire risk to my home, since I only live 2.5 miles away (at 85 James Avenue) from the proposed site, as well as the safety of the schools, the elderly who live in the many assisted living facilities in the area, as well as the many individual homes

that are located very close by the proposed site.

In addition, I find it concerning that there are no proposed evacuation plans put into place in the case of an emergency, as well as the long term health effects and cancer risks, as a result of the potential toxic chemicals that would be released into the air and in our drinking water supply.

Overall, lithium battery fires are not ordinary fires, they are extremely

difficult to extinguish and release dangerous chemicals. Locating such a facility near neighborhoods and a hazardous materials rail line shows disregard for community safety.

I sincerely hope that this proposal is rejected, in order to protect the health, safety, and property of Tewksbury residents.

Thank you,
Angela Dardonis
Lifelong resident
of Tewksbury

Book Stew Review

'Famous Last Words' by Gillian McAllister

By EILEEN MACDOUGALL

My third McAllister mystery on audio starts in the author's usual manner, with a couple in love who runs into major trouble, and a secondary character with issues of his own.

Camilla, a literary agent, awakens one morning to find her husband Luke gone, and within hours is summoned to a London warehouse where Luke is holding three people captive.

Hostage negotiator Niall is confident in his ability to make the right decisions, and when he decides, based on his training and experience, that Luke won't kill the hostages, he turns out to be both wrong and right. Camilla and Niall tell

their stories of the aftermath of the crime and of the impact on their marriages. This author is known for dropping major bombs on her readers, and with an audio book, you can't really go back and find out where McAllister has hidden her tipoffs, so you wait and see what will explode.

Here, I saw one coming and didn't see another. I started my McAllister journey with Wrong Place Wrong Time, which out of the three I've read was the most thrilling, so maybe I'm getting used to her formula, but this one is still a very enjoyable listen, and Brit narrators get me every time.

I also enjoy the author's consistent focus on women of intelligence as her main characters.

Town Crier

Tewksbury - Wilmington

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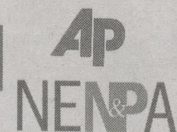
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Movie Review:

'Roofman'

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Recipe:

Cottage Cheese Protein
Bagels Page B2



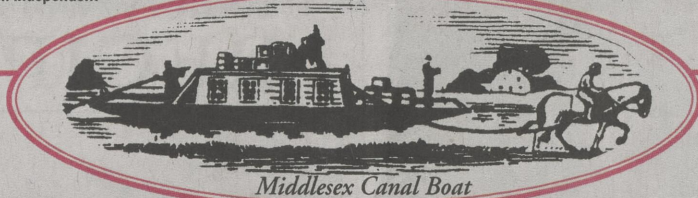
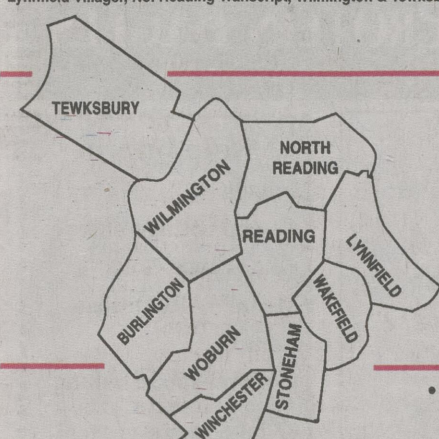
Real Estate Transfers

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MIDDLESEX EAST appearing in Daily Times - Chronicle (Reading, Woburn, Winchester, Burlington, Wakefield),
Lynnfield Villager, No. Reading Transcript, Wilmington & Tewksbury Town Crier, Stoneham Independent

WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 16, 2025 B1



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Woburn's License Commission pushes back against alleged state overreach

By PATRICK BLAIS

Woburn's License Commission continues to rage against what they view as state encroachment into alcohol service and consumption rules that should be fully controlled by municipalities.

A little more than a year after formally asking state legislators to relegate all control over liquor licensing and alcohol consumption policies to local communities, the three-member body urged the local City Council to reject the adoption of a new state law that would let cities and towns convert restricted beer-and-wine licenses into full blown all-alcoholic pouring permits.

Last month, the City Council intimated it has no plans to adopt the statute and acknowledged receipt of the License Commission's memo.

"I think the state law exists as it is and we can afford ourselves of it at any time," stated Ward 4 Councilor Joseph Demers at that City Hall gathering, when he and other council members noted they are not currently inclined to act on the special legislation.

In late August, the Woburn License Commission voted unanimously to recommend against acceptance of the local option state law, which would allow up to nine additional restaurant owners in the city to serve cocktails and mixed-drinks with hard alcohol to customers.

Under the special statute, once communities adopt the local option, existing beer-and-wine license holders could approach their local liquor licensing authority and ask to convert the permit into an all-alcoholic pouring license.

Notably, the state law does not increase the total number of all-alcoholic liquor licenses available for cities and towns to issue. In another major caveat, the state regulations stipulate that once a beer-and-wine license is converted, restaurants will lose any rights they may have to transfer that permit under any subsequent sale of the eatery.

"The new law requires the local legislative body - in Woburn's case the City Council - to adopt the statute at its prerogative. After discussion, the License Commission recommends that the city maintain the status quo," that Woburn License Commission's memo back in August explained.

The state law in question, MGL Chapter 138 Section 12D, was tucked by state legislators into the state's FY'26 budget and approved by Mass. Governor Maura Healey over the summer. Technically, the legislation respects communities' rights to self-governance by making acceptance of the regulations optional.

However, the city's License Commission members have recently contended that communities should be granted full and total control over all local liquor licensing and alcohol consumption rules - thereby eliminating the need for the state's involvement in the process.

In Woburn, where at least 64 restaurants and social clubs hold liquor licenses, there are six establishments that hold beer and wine licenses, while three other limited permits are available.

Notably, over the past year, the Woburn License Commission has been sounding the alarm over what they view as a state takeover of the local permitting process and have called for a full return to a home rule process where city officials make decisions regarding where, when and under what circumstances citizens are allowed to purchase and consume alcohol.

That pushback is part of a larger trend whereby municipal officials have rebelled against a series of zoning mandates and other state actions that are viewed as anathema to the concept of home rule.

For example, back in the spring of 2022, when Woburn officials discovered the state legislature had passed new "housing choice" regulations in an economic development bill, city leaders were amongst the first to protest the by-right, multi-family housing mandate and pledged to fight the so-called "MBTA Communities" directive.

Woburn eventually relented and came into compliance with the controversial state statute, which required the municipality to establish a new 50-acre zoning district where some 3,500 new apartments and multi-family housing complexes can be constructed. However, dozens of other communities - including nearby Wilmington and Tewksbury - would also denounce the mandate and attempt to fight back.

Likewise, Woburn's City Council over the winter similarly condemned another zoning mandate, which was tucked into housing bond bill passed by the state Legislature back in August of 2023 and designated in-law apartment or accessory dwelling units as by-right uses in all zoning districts where the construction of new housing is permitted.

Last summer, Woburn's License Commission joined the rebellion against what it viewed as state overreach and asked the City Council to join it in demanding that the state legislature cede all control over liquor licensing in the community.

According to veteran License Commission member David Gilgun, rather than aiming

• LIQUOR TO B2



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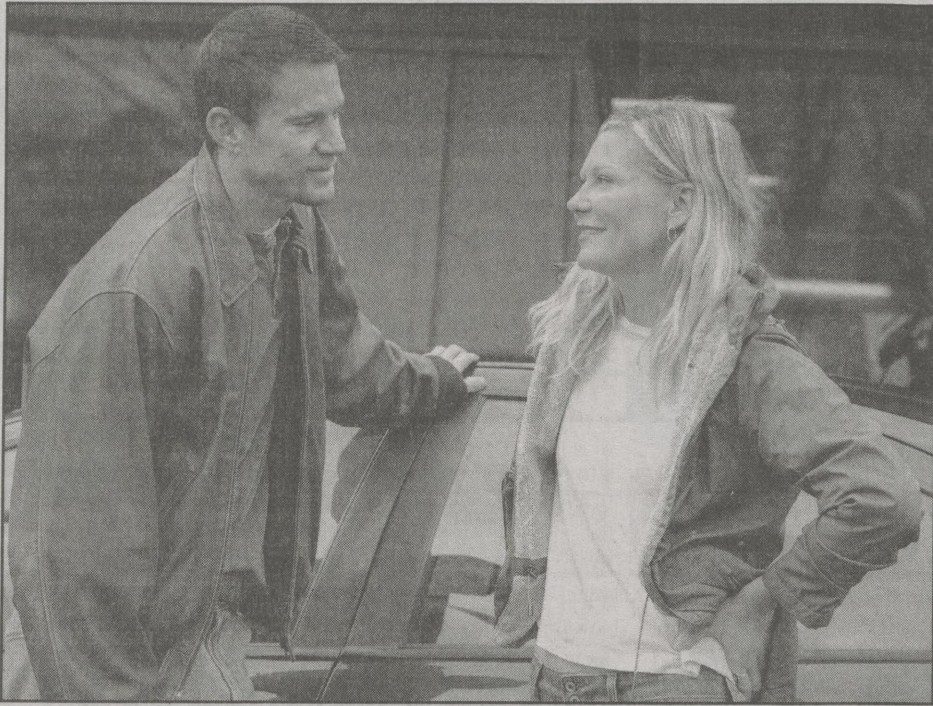
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- Painting for Kids with WAC KidsCreate



THROUGH THE ROOF - Channing Tatum, left, and Kirsten Dunst in a scene from "Roofman" released by Paramount Pictures.
(Davi Russo/Paramount Pictures via AP)

Movie Reviews & Box Office News

Channing Tatum and Kirsten Dunst bring humanity to true-crime tale 'Roofman'

By LINDSEY BAHR
AP Film Writer

Down on his luck divorced dad who resorts to crime is becoming familiar territory for Channing Tatum as an actor. In "Logan Lucky" his mark was the Charlotte Motor Speedway. In "Roofman," in theaters Friday, it's McDonald's. In both films, there's a young daughter he wants to impress. The big, heart-breaking difference is that "Roofman" isn't just some fun, eccentric caper — it's based on a wild true story, involving a prison escape, a six-month secret stay inside Toys "R" Us and a local girlfriend who was none-the-wiser to his criminal ways.

The film, directed by Derek Cianfrance, who co-wrote the script with Kirt Gunn, takes some important liberties in telling the story of Jeffrey Manchester, though many of the wildest beats did actually happen, including offering up his coat to a McDonald's employee he was robbing. It's suspected that he hit over 40 of the fast-food joints across the country before he was nabbed in North Carolina.

After escaping from prison, where he was serving a 45-year sentence

(mostly stemming from kidnapping charges), he really did live behind a bike display in a Charlotte Toys "R" Us, ate baby food to survive, decorated his makeshift bed with Spider-Man sheets and eventually started venturing out into the town and attending a local church where he began dating a single mom.

In "Roofman," Jeffery's life of crime starts with a minor humiliation. Already divorced, the U.S. Army veteran asks his daughter what she wants for her 6th birthday as she's blowing out the candles, which just seems to be setting himself up for failure. She wants a bike, which is out of his price range, and he has the grand idea to start robbing. It works until it doesn't.

Tatum is really good at making you immediately empathetic to the plight of his character, who is written as a smart, good guy who just can't catch a break. Inside the toy store, he watches the jerky manager (Peter Dinklage) bossing his employees (including Leigh, his future girlfriend played by Kirsten Dunst) around and becomes a modern Robin Hood, secretly adjusting schedules to more humane hours and donating

stolen toys to a church. He yearns to see his three kids, but he knows that's too dangerous and is biding time until his old army pal (LaKeith Stanfield) can help him flee the country. Then he meets Leigh and falls in love.

"Roofman" wants to be a few things at once, a funny, low-stakes caper, a sweet romance between two no-longer-young divorcees, and a humane portrait of the lengths working class-Americans must go to simply get by in a system that seems stacked against them. Shot on 35 mm film, it has a grainy, vintage look because it's 2004 and suddenly that feels like a very long time ago. And it mostly gets by with its aims, thanks to Tatum's beautiful performance that shows off his range, and Dunst, who does miracles with limited material. Her Leigh is a tired, working mom who is cautiously optimistic that things might just be good for a moment despite her new boyfriend's fake-sounding job and penchant for elaborate gift-giving. While I would have liked more of her side, at least she gets to be a character, unlike Jeff's ex-wife (Melonie Diaz) who is simply an obstacle to him

HomeNewsHere RECIPE



INGREDIENTS:

Bagels

- 1 cup cottage cheese
- 1 1/4 cups Gold Medal™ All Purpose Flour
- 1/4 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon salt

Topping

- 1 egg
- 1 tablespoon water
- Sesame seeds, poppy seeds, sea salt, or other seasonings

BAGEL TIME - These are definitely more moist than a traditional bagel but that makes them really good, as is, no toppings or schmear needed! Bonus, these cottage cheese protein bagels come together in minutes and since they don't contain yeast, they can be baked right away! No waiting for them to rise. They're hearty and soft with a bready interior that looks like an actual bagel. The egg gives the bagels their shine without having to boil them before baking, plus it allows any flavorings to adhere to the bagels.

STEPS

Step 1

Heat the oven to 400°F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.

Step 2

In a food processor bowl, add the cottage cheese and blend until smooth.

Step 3

In a medium mixing bowl, combine the blended cottage cheese with the flour, baking powder, and salt. Mix until a dough forms.

Step 4

Knead the dough on a

floured surface until it comes together and is no longer sticky.

Step 5

Divide the dough into four portions. Roll each portion into a log, about 6 to 8 inches long, and connect the ends of each log to form 4 bagels.

Step 6

In a small bowl, whisk the egg and water until thoroughly blended.

Step 7

Place the bagels on the baking sheet and brush with the egg mixture.

Step 8

Sprinkle the tops of the bagels with your choice of seeds and/or seasonings.

Step 9

Bake the bagels at 400°F for 25 to 28 minutes, or until puffed and golden. Cool 15 minutes before slicing or eating.

EXPERT TIPS

- You can store leftover bagels in a container in the refrigerator for 2 days. They won't be as soft as fresh baked, but a quick 10 seconds in the microwave will revive them nicely.

seeing his kids. Why did they get divorced? The movie never asks. Perhaps because part of the answer might have something to do with a domestic disturbance 911 call that the film doesn't touch.

"Roofman" is best experienced as a movie and a movie alone, where two likable actors give fine performances and carry the story through its rougher parts. But there's something a little hard to digest when

you try to synthesize the real Jeffrey Manchester, who sounds much more complex and fascinating, and the movie Jeffrey Manchester. The film succeeds in doing what it aimed for: Presenting a humane portrait of a guy who will be serving most of his life behind bars, in crowd-pleasing packaging. But what, ultimately, is the point of using the charming parts and ignoring the unsavory ones? For a filmmaker who has

never shied away from the rough edges of reality, "Roofman" feels a bit dishonest.

"Roofman," a Paramount Pictures release in theaters Friday, is rated R by the Motion Picture Association for "brief sexuality, nudity and language." Running time: 126 minutes. Two and a half stars out of four.

For more movie reviews please visit on the web at homenewshere.com.

• LIQUOR FROM B1

to implement a total freeze on the issuance of new liquor licenses, the License Commissioner believes that the city, rather than state officials, should be making all decisions regarding licensing. Arguing the state has usurped that local authority by issuing extra licenses and then in essence dictating that those permits must be issued when requested, Gilgun and his counterparts contend the time has come to end that practice.

"[There's] a package store going in by Target [off Commerce Way] that's going to have up to 500 to 1,000 apartments and condos nearby. Now we're going to have cops all over the place down there. That's something we didn't ask for. It was pushed on us," said Gilgun during a conversation with the City Council last year.

"Or let's look at the [Woburn Village site off Mishawum Road]. Can you find a parking space there? Well the state gave them seven liquor licenses," Gilgun further vented. "They also have beer gardens there every night now [on the village green] and we have no say about it. It was jammed right down our throats."

Important to note, the Woburn Village licenses began as a Home Rule Petition passed by the Woburn City Council unanimously and signed by Mayor Scott Galvin back in 2019. The bill was then filed on Beacon Hill by State Rep. Richard Haggerty and Sen. Cindy Friedman before being signed into law on May 21, 2020 as Chapter 86 of the Acts of 2020. With its passage, the city of Woburn License Commission was granted the power to issue up to seven additional licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages and up to four additional licenses for the sale of wines and malt beverages to be drunk on the premises at the Woburn Mall redevelopment.

That push for a return to "home rule" started back in June of 2024, when the three-member commission asked the City Council to lobby the city's Beacon Hill delegation for a complete freeze on the issuance of new all-alcoholic licenses in Woburn through special legislation.

The License Commission, which is charged with overseeing the issuance of the community's 80-plus liquor licenses and enforcing local regulations governing public alcohol consumption in restaurants, pointed out that in recent years, Woburn has gained 27 such extra liquor licenses through special acts of the state Legislature.

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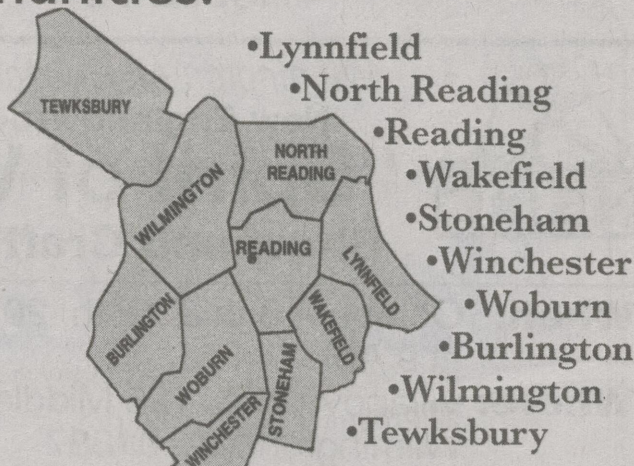
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11 Brookside Ln was sold to Lottatore, Christine by Menkello, Christine for \$770,000 on 09/25/25

155 Mill St was sold to Inherited Prop Soln LLC by Arnam, Gregory V for \$585,000 on 09/26/25

LYNNFIELD

9 New Meadow Rd was sold to Donohue, Marie N and Goldstein Sr, Joseph W by Marrin, Patricia for \$1,380,000 on 09/23/25

NORTH READING

2 Greenbriar Dr #204 was sold to Andrade, David by Skinner, Ronald H and Skinner, Coleen M for \$358,900 on 09/25/25

11 Old Andover Rd was sold to Baytar, Idris by Saltzman, Adam C for \$425,000 on 09/23/25

4 Pine Ave was sold to Tannian, Jason and Sullivan, Jocelyn by Dianne G Wagner RET and Wagner, Dianne G for \$542,000 on 09/25/25

59 Spruce Rd was sold to Garick, Joshua N and Garick, Nicole L by Howard, Henry J and Howard, Lorraine L for \$1,400,000 on 09/23/25

12 Tarbox Ln was sold to Metropoulos, Athanasios N and Metropoulos, Maria P by Sheldrake, Taryn K for \$1,850,000 on 09/22/25

READING

119 Bancroft Ave was sold to Liu, Chang and Sun, Taoyanran by Mesa, Nelson D for \$937,500 on 09/24/25

24 Chestnut Rd was sold to Orsula, Eric and Halloran, Richard P by Halloran, Robert G and Halloran, Michelle for \$220,000 on 09/25/25

20 Dana Rd was sold to Zhang, Zhihai and Zhang, Congli by Digiorgio, Alec W for \$950,000 on 09/24/25

281 Main St was sold to 281 Reading LLC by Gwt Haven Realty LLC for \$1,575,000 on 09/25/25

25 Pierce St #25 was sold to Haugh, Patricia A by Vieno, John and Vieno, Abigail

for \$625,000 on 09/22/25

261 Salem St #4 was sold to Archdeacon, Nancy A and Archdeacon, Kevin C by Galliani Irt and Galliani, Joseph for \$580,000 on 09/22/25

108 South St was sold to Chakrapani, Ajit and Raghunathan, Suchi by Nova Homebuilders Inc for \$1,450,000 on 09/26/25

49 Springvale Rd was sold to Hartigan 3rd, William and Hartigan, Nicole by Edge, Colin and Edge, Katelyn for \$896,000 on 09/25/25

STONEHAM

49 Butler Ave was sold to Pinecrest Realty Vent LLC by Scarpa, Thomas A for \$651,000 on 09/26/25

11 Coventry Ln was sold to Silk, Nathan and Silk, Jordan by Zhang, Xiaoping for \$1,515,000 on 09/23/25

200 Ledgewood Dr #201 was sold to Porcaro, Chelsee by Crisafulli, Kathryn for \$380,000 on 09/23/25

144 Marble St #208 was sold to Simeqi, Vilma and Nikaj, Shage by Loether Marble Street Rt and Loether, Sally M for \$525,000 on 09/23/25

TEWKSBURY

1212 Emerald Ct #1212 was sold to Wood, Mary L by Jefferson, Carolyn for \$470,000 on 09/24/25

1830 Main St #18 was sold to Chakraborty, Krishnendu and Chakraborty, Madhuchanda by Owen, Michele for \$405,000 on 09/22/25

29 McLaren Rd was sold to Fales, Jennifer by Curreri, Anthony P and Curreri-Fales, Jennifer for \$275,400 on 09/26/25

25 Tanglewood Ave was sold to Pedigo, Christopher by Lessard Jr, David E and Lessard, Alyson M for \$735,000 on 09/23/25

WAKEFIELD

8 Fielding St was sold to Salvati, Christopher and Salvati, Abigail by Donohue, Marie N for \$750,000 on 09/22/25

69 Foundry St #502 was sold to Petrocelli, Neil by Bavaro, Christopher A for \$519,900 on 09/25/25

997 Main St #1 was sold to Cotha, Akshay V by Jonsson, Bryan and Jonsson, Shannon

for \$680,000 on 09/23/25

1 Millbrook Ln #306 was sold to Conlon, Suzanne by Deveney, Deanna M for \$210,138 on 09/26/25

1 Millbrook Ln #201 was sold to Pulecio-Pulgarin, Mauricio by Harris Street Rt and Fddg-Ma LLC Tr for \$460,000 on 09/25/25

22 Millbrook Ln was sold to Joshi, Vivek N and Joshi, Sangita M by Donna M Capolupo Ft and Capolupo, Donna M for \$820,000 on 09/22/25

16 Woodland Rd was sold to Nester, Erin and Colville, Quinn A by 16 Woodland Rd LLC for \$845,000 on 09/25/25

WILMINGTON

11 Commonwealth Ave was sold to 11 Comm Avenue Cbc LLC by S&k Associates LLC for \$195,000 on 09/26/25

7 Cross St #103 was sold to Atlas, Joel D and Atlas, Michelle by One Cross LLC for \$525,000 on 09/26/25

7 Cross St #106 was sold to Kenton, Christopher N by One Cross LLC for \$449,900 on 09/25/25

44 Dell Dr was sold to Blizzard, Richard L and Blizzard, Amanda L by Hunter, Ruth J for \$590,000 on 09/24/25

20 King St was sold to Huebner, Tyler and Huebner, Tatiana by Jed Elisma Organization for \$578,000 on 09/22/25

43 Marcus Rd was sold to Gomar Realty LLC by Swanview Investments LLC for \$625,000 on 09/24/25

24 Oxbow Dr was sold to Veloza Jr, Brian D and Barrows, Meghan E by Louis M Costa Ft and Costa, Louis M for \$80,000 on 09/26/25

24 Oxbow Dr was sold to Veloza Jr, Brian D and Terranova, Melissa M by Barrows, Josh and Barrows, Meghan E for \$150,000 on 09/26/25

24 Oxbow Dr was sold to Veloza Jr, Brian D and Terranova, Melissa M by Costa, Louis M for \$80,000 on 09/26/25

195 Salem St #2208 was sold to Kim, Thorn by Howe Robert A Est and Sargent, Susan for \$201,055 on 09/26/25

250 Woburn St was sold to Howlett, Susan and Homola, Troy by Quilty, John R

and Bennett, Susan E for \$590,000 on 09/25/25

WINCHESTER

44 Amberwood Dr was sold to Dang, Eric and Dang, Lauren E by Colbath Int and Colboath, Donna J for \$1,713,000 on 09/25/25

17 Baldwin St was sold to Dang, Dzung and Win, Zaw by D Development Group LLC for \$878,000 on 09/26/25

10 Blossom Hill Rd was sold to Forsa, Kevin and Forsa, Molly by Deconto, Stephen J and Deconto, Donna M for \$1,678,500 on 09/25/25

31 Fells Rd was sold to 31 Fells LLC by Winegrath, Fred J and Winegrath, Mary S for \$1,550,000 on 09/22/25

4 Fieldstone Dr was sold to Bhat-tacharya, Debaditya and Goel, Surbhi by Zheng, Wenli and Luan, Jing for \$1,950,000 on 09/25/25

60 Graystone Cir #60 was sold to Francini, Robert J and Francini, Yuk K by Guidara, John P for \$1,475,000 on 09/26/25

171 Swanton St #60 was sold to Hu, Ping and Li, Yuanhong by Ehrlich, Scott R for \$738,000 on 09/26/25

WOBURN

12 Edith Ave was sold to Fnu, Suman R and Singh, Shakti by Varoutsos, Joan and Briggs, Kim for \$525,500 on 09/25/25

21 Elm St was sold to Brown, Jennifer A and Brown Sr, Mark R by Gaffney Margaret K Est and Gaffney, Mark E for \$670,000 on 09/23/25

119 Green St was sold to Walhekar, Ananya by Pumyea Robert A Est and Pumyea, William G for \$620,000 on 09/22/25

4 Hope Ln was sold to Vacanti, Bryanna F and Barto, William C by Vacanti, Marianne and Vacanti, Francis for \$849,000 on 09/25/25

28 Marlboro Rd was sold to Abrams, Joshua and Abrams, Carol by Rennell, Eric J and Rennell, Karen E for \$1,529,000 on 09/26/25

35 Prospect St #109 was sold to Anderson, Nicolette S by Paul Francis Dev Grp LLC for \$305,000 on 09/22/25

Woburn Middlesex Lions Club Annual Fashion Show is Thursday, October 16

WOBURN - On Thursday evening, Oct. 16, the Woburn Middlesex Lions Club is having their Annual Lions Fashion Show. The fashions are being presented by Macy's.

This year's show will take place at the Woburn/Stoneham Lodge of Elks located at 295 Washington St., East Woburn. Sandwiches and desserts will be served at 6 p.m. and the fashion show will start at 7 p.m.

For people interested in attending, tickets are \$30 and can be purchased by emailing Pat at Longarini66@yahoo.com. All proceeds for the evening's event will benefit Lions' charities. Please join the group for a fun-filled evening of Fashion by Macy's.

The Woburn Middlesex Lions Club is a service organization comprised of diversified women of all ages raising funds to promote eye health, eye research, diabetes wellness and access to eye glasses and other visual aids.

This year the Woburn Middlesex Lions are celebrating their 37th anniversary and Lions International is celebrating their 108th anniversary.

The Woburn Middlesex Lions Club also supports other local community organizations and family needs.



Feedback Needed!

Community Survey on Opioid Use Disorder Care in Tewksbury

Are you at least 18 years old and living/working/volunteering in Tewksbury? If so, you are invited to take this survey created by the Town of Tewksbury and UMass Lowell's Center for Program Evaluation (CPE).

The purpose of this survey is to learn about the needs and barriers to care related to opioid use disorder (OUD). The survey takes about 12-15 minutes. As a token of our appreciation, you can enter a raffle for a chance to win a \$25 Amazon gift card (4 cards will be awarded) at the end of the survey.

English: https://umasslowell.co1.qualtrics.com/.../SV_9HnLp6Y7c8foUsK

Spanish: https://umasslowell.co1.qualtrics.com/.../SV_3NOyGFWxDxbJhA2

Arabic: https://umasslowell.co1.qualtrics.com/.../SV_8iXaGbkLDegqsGW

Survey created by UMass Lowell's Center for Program Evaluation.

Annual Woburn-Stoneham Elks Craft Fair returns for new season on October 18

WOBURN — The Woburn-Stoneham Lodge of Elks #908 invites the community to its annual Craft Fair on Saturday, Oct. 18 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Elks Lodge, located at 295 Washington St..

The fair will feature a wide array of handmade items from talented local artisans, offering shoppers an opportunity to find unique, one-of-a-kind treasures. From handcrafted jewelry to home decor, and other unique gifts, there will be something for everyone.

For those looking for a bite to eat while

they browse, a vendor will be on-site selling lunch. The craft fair also includes a raffle table, with items donated by the vendors, adding an extra layer of excitement for shoppers.

This event is a great way to support local crafters and get a head start on holiday shopping. Admission is free, and the lodge offers plenty of parking.

For more information, or for vendors who wish to participate, contact Patti Robichaud at 781-820-0546 or PattiQRobi@comcast.net.

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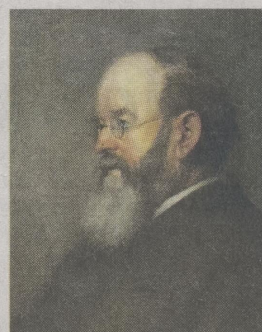
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Tewksbury Police Log

Female party arrested for alleged assault on officer

Monday, October 6

3 p.m. - A 911 caller stated dark blue Jeep took a right onto Chandler Street going 15 miles per hour under the speed limit. Police sent, but the vehicle was gone on arrival.

8:11 p.m. - Caller reported two males yelling behind the building at Pushcart Cafe. One male seemed to be on the ground. Police sent. A female wore a black shirt, jeans with tan backpack walking toward the Post Office. The police reported well being check on female who was waiting for a ride. Officer filed a report.

Tuesday, October 7

6:54 p.m. - A caller would like to speak with an officer at Georgia Road regarding someone on his property earlier in the day. Police sent. Situation happened and seemed like it was going to be a solicitor issue.

9:02 p.m. - A 911 caller reported electrical bicycle driving erratically at Shaw-

sheen Street and Main Street. Caller stated bike had no lights and the operator was wearing a black helmet. Police sent. The scooter was headed toward East Street in the sidewalk.

Wednesday, October 8

4:13 a.m. - Caller reported suspicious car going back and forth in the area and it was seen on a Ring camera at Catamount Road. Police sent and there was nothing shown.

7:03 a.m. - A 911 caller from a driver who picked up passengers and a guy followed them at Whipple Road. Caller was heading to Wilmington and crossed the line into Wilmington shortly after connecting with the police. Call transfers into Wilmington 911.

1:15 p.m. - Caller stated two male parties in a gray Chevy equinox were on side of the road near pump station were putting oil on the outside of the vehicle, possibly polluting the land at Vale Street. Police sent.

Officer spoke to the party. They were decorating car for Halloween.

2:46 p.m. - A 911 caller reported his friend poured water on the electronic items in his trunk at Algonquin Drive. Caller stated female left the a 2013 Toyota Corolla color white. Police sent. Officer filed a report.

6:22 p.m. - A walk in party at the police station reported threatening text messages at North Street. Police sent and officer filed a report.

7:48 p.m. - The walk in party noticed damage to her vehicle from Autofair Toyota of Tewksbury. Police sent. The damage did not happen in Tewksbury.

9:04 p.m. - A vehicle with a flat driving erratically at River Road and Andover Street. Police sent. Gemma Salazar-Ontivero, 25, of 49 Hamlet St. in Lawrence, was arrested and charged with a warrant for assault and battery on a police officer and operator of a motor vehicle with

license suspended.

9:36 p.m. - A fight reportedly occurred at Oscar's Pinata's. Police sent. They reported the officer will keep checking the area, as no fights occurred at this time.

Thursday, October 9

5:21 a.m. - Someone was smoking a pipe in front of the sidewalk at Papa Ginos North. Police sent and he was smoking tobacco.

6:17 a.m. - A 911 call from an elderly male who reported two adult kids were missing from his home at Shawsheen Street. He stated one of the missing kids was the actress from Yellowstone. When she was going to marry him, the agency didn't allow it. Officer sent and filed a report.

8:52 p.m. - Caller reported two men arguing in the street of Berkeley Street. Police sent. Verbal argument between neighbors over a speeding motor vehicle.

Friday, October 10

12:59 a.m. - Police checked on motor vehicle at Circle K. They stated everything checked out OK.

2:28 p.m. - Caller reported a vehicle in the middle of the parking lot having what she believed to be

sexual activity at Dollar Tree. Police sent. They reported all parties were fully clothed. They were customers of the auto part store.

2:56 p.m. - A 911 caller reported there had been a vehicle driving in the area, pulling into driveways and was concerned for her neighborhood at Cardigan Road. Caller was concerned that the male party had bloodshot eyes and stated he checked in. Police sent and the male checked in. The police spoke with all the parties.

8:58 p.m. - Police out with an individual on the phone at Motel 6. Gentleman missed a white and gray cat named Luna wearing a pink harness. Cat had been missing for an hour.

9:14 p.m. - Caller reported there was fireworks going on at school and he had it multiple times on Pleasant Street. Police sent. There was nothing going on at the Center School, but the officer did see another go off and was checking the area. There was a second caller that stated he heard a loud bang that might have sounded like fireworks or a gun shot. He stated it might have been around the perimeter of Carnation, but they were unsure. Units cleared; nothing showing.

10:43 p.m. - Caller reported a two-car motor

vehicle accident at Andover Street. Vehicle pulled into the Cracker Barrel. Police sent. Jason Gervais, 50, of 119 Haverhill St. in Andover, was arrested and charged with OUI liquor and negligent operation of motor vehicle.

Saturday, October 11

7:46 a.m. - Caller reported the love seat they were throwing away got dragged across the street at Foster Road. Two teens sat in it waving at the traffic and took videos. Police sent. The couch was moved back to the side of the road.

Sunday, October 12

12:12 a.m. - Caller reported argument with her boyfriend at Oscar's Pinata's. Verbal only, caller waited by her white Lexus. Caller tried to get an Uber home. Police sent. They transported the female to Extended Stay.

2:07 a.m. - A 911 call from employee at Motel 6 reported a Hispanic male in a red shirt urinated on front office windows. Police sent. Francisco Terro, 35, of 53 Willow St. in Lowell, was arrested and charged with OUI liquor, intimidate witness, intoxicated licensed carry firearm, and threat to commit crime to wit assault and battery.



Wilmington Police Log

Burlington man arrested and charged with OUI-Liquor, carrying firearm while intoxicated

Friday, Oct. 3:

1:44 p.m.: A gray 2019 Honda HB and a gray 2025 Honda HR-V were involved in a motor vehicle accident on Lowell Street. Airbags were deployed.

4 p.m.: A caller at the Shell Gas Station on Main Street reported squatting at the side of the building, with a bag and other belongings on him, who was making people uncomfortable. Police met with the man, who went on his way.

4:59 p.m.: A walk-in party from Federal Street reported receiving suspicious phone calls from a man inquiring about a case in regards to her sister. Police called the man, who stated he was a private investigator, and the woman was satisfied with this answer.

Saturday, Oct. 4:

5:44 p.m.: A property owner on High Street reported that potential property buyers were at the scene without the real estate agent overseeing the sale. The buyers were told not to come without a realtor in the future.

11:57 p.m.: Santino Robert Dimastrantonio of 1 Swain Road, in Burlington, was arrested for OUI-Liquor over .08%, carrying a licensed firearm

while intoxicated, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, and a marked lanes violation. This followed a caller reporting a possibly drunk driver driving down Main Street.

Sunday, Oct. 5:

3:21 a.m.: An Uber driver on the Rt. 62 highway reported that there was a drunk passenger in his vehicle who was spitting and talking about him, and refusing to leave the vehicle when asked. The driver reported that the argument was verbal in nature, and the passenger got another Uber to take him home to Lawrence.

9:03 a.m.: A gray 2007 Toyota Camry and a black 2019 BMW X5 were involved in a motor vehicle accident near the high school on Church Street. No airbags were deployed, and no injuries were reported.

4:37 p.m.: Donald Joseph Moloney Jr. of 10 Burlington Ave., Apt. #1109, in Wilmington, was issued a summons for a subsequent offense of operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license and possessing an open container of alcohol in a motor vehicle. This followed a caller on Lowell Street reporting a man struggling to exit his vehicle and appearing to be un-

steady and intoxicated while entering a liquor store.

Monday, Oct. 6:

7:01 p.m.: Julio Cesar Cortez of 58 Andover Road, in Billerica, was issued a summons for unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, failure to stop/yield, and not having a valid inspection sticker. This followed a stop of his red 2019 Honda CBR300 on Main Street.

8:44 p.m.: Ismael Manuel Alejandro Concepcion of

15 Putnam St., in Revere, was issued a summons for operating an uninsured motor vehicle and operating a motor vehicle with a suspended or revoked registration. This followed a stop of his gray 2004 BMW 325 on Lowell Street.

10:55 p.m.: A gray 2010 Chevy Aveo crashed into a house on Minkrun Road; the vehicle also flipped and landed on its roof, with the driver safely outside it.

Tuesday, Oct. 7:

6:29 a.m.: A white 2018 GMC Savana and a white 2022 International trailer LT625 were involved in a motor vehicle accident on Ballardvale Street. One airbag was deployed, and it's unknown if anyone was injured.

3:40 p.m.: An employee at the Santander Bank on Main Street reported an

irate customer demanding money from a teller, despite not having any ID on him, described as middle-aged, wearing a polo, shorts, and a hospital bracelet. The man was cooperative, he was found to have an account at the bank, and was able to retrieve some money and was to leave shortly.

4:02 p.m.: A caller on Appletree Lane reported a hit-and-run involving a white 2021 Mack LR64 that had happened a little under half an hour beforehand, and that he had video provided by his company.

Wednesday, Oct. 8:

12:55 a.m.: A caller on Houghton Road reported that their gray 2024 Dodge Durango had been stolen from their driveway, and stated they believed the vehicle was heading down Richmond Street. The ve-

hicle ended up last being pinged on Ash Street in Reading, and was reported as stolen.

7:33 a.m.: A tan 2009 Chevy Malibu and a black 2007 Toyota Tundra were involved in a motor vehicle accident on the I-93 SB highway. No injuries were reported, and paperwork was exchanged.

9:52 p.m.: A gray 2018 Toyota Camry struck a white 2015 Kia Sorento on the Rt. 62 highway. No injuries were reported, and the drivers had already exchanged paperwork when police arrived.

Thursday, Oct. 9:

5:48 p.m.: A red 2005 Toyota Camry and a gray 2018 Honda CR-V were involved in a motor vehicle accident in the parking lot of the Savers on Main Street.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Massachusetts

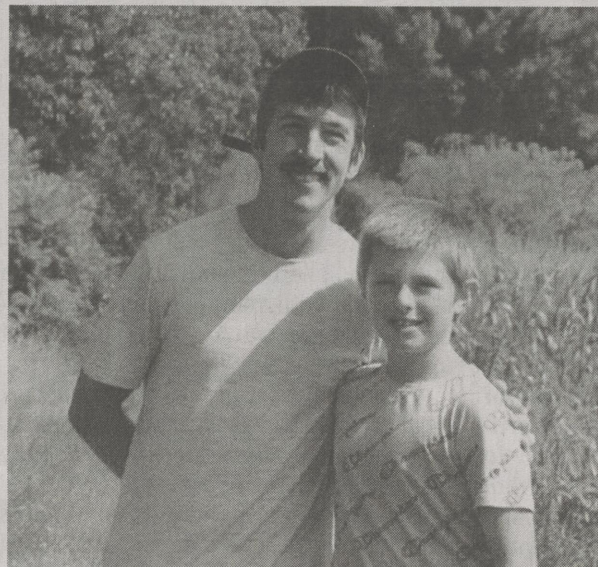
Ellis makes lasting impact as volunteer

TEWKSBURY — John Ellis, of Tewksbury, is making a lasting impact as a volunteer mentor for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Massachusetts (BBBSEM), the state's leading one-to-one mentoring program for youth. Volunteers, referred to as Bigs, are caring adults who provide children with relationships to help them reach their fullest potential.

With research and proven outcomes at its core, BBBSEM creates Big-Little matches based on shared interests, geography, and personality, and serves as a consistent resource for Bigs, Littles, and their families. Children are paired with mentors across Eastern Massachusetts from the Merrimack Valley to Cape Cod and the Islands.

Ellis, 32, has been matched with his Little, James, through BBBSEM since June 2023. The Tewksbury resident works as an inventory manager at a chain restaurant in Peabody. Growing up, Ellis' biggest mentor was his grandfather, a Boston firefighter who taught him the importance of giving back to the community.

Ellis and 12-year-old James, who lives in Lowell, enjoy visiting the library to play Roblox, hiking local trails and going to movies. During



their time together, James eagerly shares his latest interests with Ellis, which currently involve a Rubik's cube.

Ellis' proudest moment came this summer when he helped James conquer his first mountain, Mount Major. James has grown more polite and well-mannered since matching with Ellis, while Ellis has developed greater patience and found deep fulfillment in mentoring. "Becoming a Big is worth it," says Ellis. "You make a huge difference and you get to see it, and you get to build a connection with someone that could really use it. Even if you can only contribute a small amount of time, it's meaningful."

BBBSEM fosters access, belonging, and

opportunity for Bigs and Littles of all backgrounds. Mentors must be 18 or older, be able to spend a few hours a month for at least a year, and have a passion for positively impacting a young person's life.

"One caring adult can make all the difference," says BBBSEM President and CEO Mark O'Donnell, a former two-time Big Brother. "Every volunteer can change a child's life. The more mentors we have, the more young people can grow, thrive and succeed."

BBBSEM is now enrolling and matching Littles and Bigs. For more information, to become a volunteer or to register your children, visit: www.emassbigs.org.

About Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Massachusetts

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Massachusetts is an innovative, energetic organization that is making a real difference in the lives of nearly 4,000 youth annually by providing them with an invested, caring adult mentor in long-term, professionally supported relationships. With research and proven outcomes at its core, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Eastern Massachusetts is working to defend the potential of children facing adversity and ensure every child has the support from caring adults that they need for healthy development and success in life.

The organization's vision is to inspire, engage and transform communities in Eastern Massachusetts by helping youth achieve their full potential, contributing to healthier families, better schools, more confident futures and stronger communities. Throughout its 76 years, the largest Big Brothers Big Sisters affiliate in New England has created and served more than 25,000 youth.

For more information about the agency and its mission, visit www.emassbigs.org.

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Guest column:

Hall of Fame coach will be greatly missed

By JAMIE POTE
Sports Correspondent
sports@yourtowncrier.com

I was 12 years old and the Wilmington High boys' hockey team's statistician when I first met Steve

Scanlon. Little did I know at the time that it would be the start of 40 years of friendship.

Several years later after sitting in the stands and marking down every shot and penalty that Wilming-

ton took, I was a lost freshman on the first day of school, roaming the halls of Wilmington High like a lost puppy.

It was Scanlon who poked his head out of a room, looked at my schedule and

instructed me where I needed to be.

Several months after that was my introduction to him as the junior varsity hockey coach, and that was quite different. He was extremely intimidating, and you knew right away there was no messing around... not even for a second.

My hockey career was pathetic to be honest — but certainly I had some fond memories.

My sophomore and junior seasons, I played JV and dressed for the varsity games, and played when someone got hurt or late in the third period when games got out of hand.

I'll never forget sophomore year against Chelmsford.

Ristuccia Arena was packed.

I was sent out late in a 5-0 game. The Lions still had their first line out there. I took a "hospital pass" from a teammate, only to get lit up like a Christmas Tree. My gloves and stick went flying and I had no idea where I was. But I did hear Steve yell out, "it looks like a yard sale."

It was hilarious.

Countless times in the locker room after practice, Steve told us funny stories or had a few comical lines.

I remember that same sophomore year, celebrating with him and the rest of the team after we beat Tewksbury on the final regular season game to qualify for the state tour-

namment (I played a meaningful shift in that game).

Two years later, as a senior, was not a memorable season for me.

Our team was filled with underclassmen, and I assumed Steve, who was promoted to varsity coach, would hand me a starting spot. After all, I led the JV team in scoring the year before, so why wouldn't I just be given a spot?

After going through the motions for the first few weeks, I went from second line to the bench quite often. Midway through the season, I had this thought that Coach Scanlon was out to get me, and wasn't fair, so I quit.

But I couldn't tell him.

I had my father do the dirty work and travel to Haverhill to drop off my equipment.

I was a coward.

I was completely wrong and leaving the team is by far the biggest regret of my life. I truly wished I worked harder and actually deserved a spot on the team rather than thinking it would be handed to me like a piece of candy.

It didn't work that way and Steve certainly didn't work that way.

A year later, I started at the Town Crier as a college intern before working my way into the sports editor position just 13 months after leaving my hockey teammates. The winter of 1993, I remember going down to Ristuccia Rink to interview Coach

Scanlon for the first time as a reporter.

He was thrilled for me.

He answered all my questions, and not once did he bring up the fact that I was a quitter.

In fact, he never did that once in the 30 years I covered his team.

When I accepted the job at the Eagle-Tribune in March of 2023, I called Steve to let him know that I was leaving the Town Crier and I wanted to thank him for always being top notch with our professional relationship.

There wasn't a single time in 30 years that he didn't return a phone call or not allow me to interview someone or not allow one of my photographers to take five minutes of his time at a practice.

And not one time did he ever critique one of my stories or tell me I had something wrong — even though mistakes were made.

I thanked him for all of that and thanked him for never once making me feel uncomfortable about quitting on him. He told me (quitting) had nothing to do with my professional career as a sports writer, and he thanked me for the articles and support of his programs.

I'll never forget that phone call and conversation.

Just like I'll never forget the 30 years of covering his teams and listening to countless hilarious stories he told before and after games.

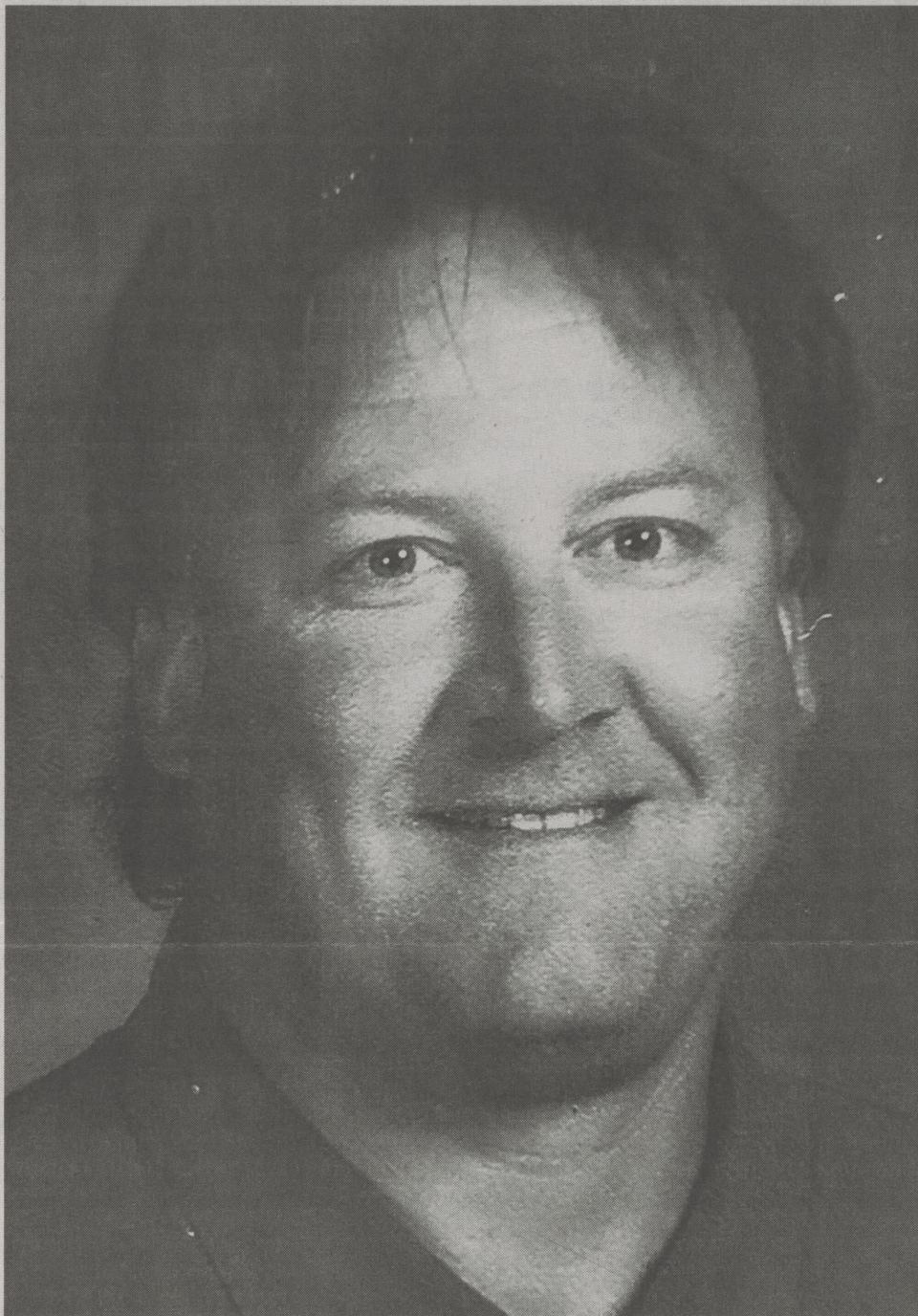
Just like I'll never forget talking to him about our own happenings, our own families and everyday life.

I enjoyed the few nights sharing a beer with him and talking sports. His knowledge of sports, the way he told stories and his laugh are things I'll never forget.

... for 40 years.

And I'm certainly going to miss that friendship.

Rest easy Steve.



▲► Legendary Wilmington High hockey and soccer coach Steve Scanlon died on Monday. (Photos courtesy of Scanlon family)

Scanlon left a legacy

Hockey and soccer coach won more than 700 games during long career

By DOUG HASTINGS
Sports Correspondent
sports@yourtowncrier.com

Long time Wilmington High educator and coach Steve Scanlon died on Monday after a battle with cancer.

His services will be a wake on Friday, October 17 from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Home at 187 Middlesex Avenue in Wilmington and a funeral mass at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, October 18 at St. Dorothy's at 11 Hamden Street in Wilmington with a burial immediately following at Wildwood Ceme-

tery at 233 Middlesex Avenue.

Scanlon leaves behind his beloved wife of 29 years, Tina, twins Colin and Siobhan, and another daughter Shailagh.

In 35 seasons of coaching, Scanlon combined for an overall record of 724-503-246.

Wildcat hockey teams won back-to-back state championships in 2012 and 2013. He also won a state crown with the boys soccer team at Westford Academy.

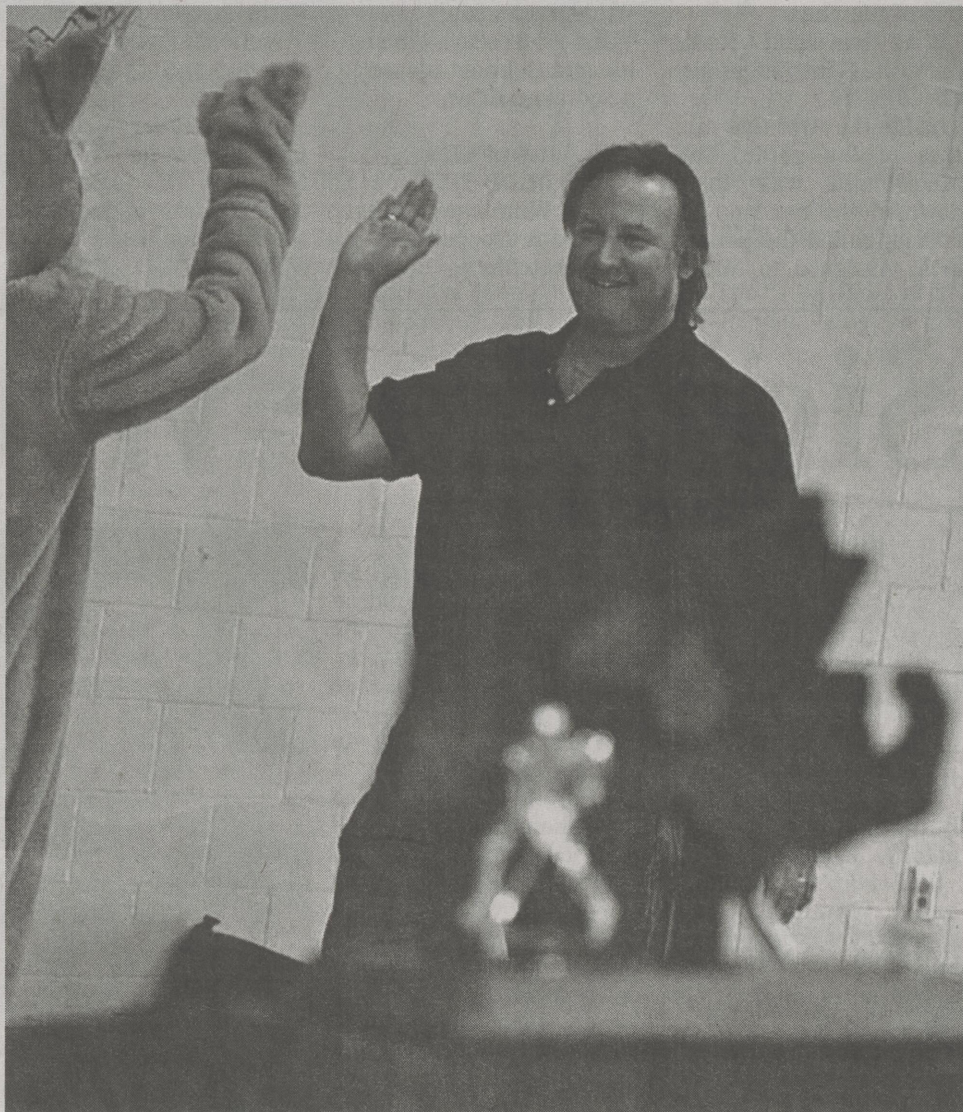
Scanlon's coaching resume had many highlights including seven sec-

tional crowns and 19 league title. His 386 hockey wins are the most in Wilmington High history and his 209 soccer victories rank fifth.

Scanlon's soccer Wildcats had unbeaten seasons in 2008 and 2009.

His teams won the Cape Ann League Sportsmanship Award four straight years.

Scanlon was a member of the Wilmington High Hall of Fame and the Mass. State Coaches Soccer and Hockey Association's Hall of Fames.



Wilmington High Roundup:

Runners do well at Twilight Invitational

By DOUG HASTINGS
Sports Correspondent
sports@yourtowncrier.com

In a long day of competition, the Wilmington High boys and girls cross country teams competed at the Bob Glennon Twilight Invitational at the Cape Cod Fairgrounds in Barnstable on Saturday, Oct. 11, 2025.

Freshman Cooper Hunt

earned a medal for the Wildcats as he placed 12th in the Sophomore 5K race with a time of 17:23.09.

Other top 50 finishers for the Wildcats were Lilah Fisher, who placed 39th in the Girls Novice 2.1 mile race with a time of 17:29.70, Matt Lawler, who was 38th in the Boys Sophomore 5K race with a time of 18:44.42, Michale Hao, who ended up 46th in the Boys Sopho-

more 5K race with a time of 19:04.67, and Gavin Dong, who finished 37th in the Boys Varsity 5K race with a time of 16:46.40.

Dong's time is the third fastest 5K time ever for a Wilmington runner, behind only Greg Adamek's 15:57.5 and Owen Surette's 16:36.8, both from the 2019 season. Eighth grader Avery Mercaldi ran the school's fastest 2.1-mile time with

her 15:13.60 that she ran while placing 59th in the Girls Freshman race.

In dual meet action, the Wildcats competed against Melrose at Pine Banks Park in Melrose.

The girls fell by a score of 17-46 to even up their record at 2-2.

The Wildcats were led by Katelyn LaPointe as she placed fourth in a time of 23:23.

LaPointe was followed by Cayley Israelson, who was 13th in 24:41, Bella Zaya, who was 15th in 25:20 and Avery Mercaldi, who took 16th in 25:43.

Also finishing in the top 20 overall was Tess Sullivan, 17th in 25:56, and Zoe Moses-Chen, 19th in 26:54.

Other runners for Wilmington were Ciara O'Shea (28th in 29:54), Niki Douzepis (29th in 30:54), Lilah

Fisher (30th in 32:00), Annette Fitzgibbons (31st in 32:25), Summer Aliperta (33rd in 32:48), Gabby Oliver (34th in 35:28) and Bella Noberini (35th in 35:36).

The WHS boys fell by a score of 20-36 to even up their record at 2-2.

The Wildcats were led by Gavin Dong as he placed



◀ Wilmington's Mohamed Ikhief (left) and Konstantine Chronopoulos challenge Wakefield's Daniel Kidder in the air during a boys soccer game Friday in Wakefield, Mass. Wakefield won 2-0. (Credit Image: James Thomas)

▼ Wilmington's Avery King, center, battles Woburn defenders Mikayla Curll, left, and Madelyn McManus during Tuesday's girls soccer game in Wilmington. Wilmington won, 1-0. (Credit Image: James Thomas)



▼ Roman Synnott makes a shot for the Wildcats.

(Joe Brown photo)

Girls soccer earns two big wins

ROUNDUP FROM PAGE B5W

third in a time of 17:40.

Three other Wildcats finished in the top 10 including Cooper Hunt, who was sixth in 18:22, Jake Cronin, seventh in 18:58, and David Dynan, who took ninth in 19:21.

Six other Wilmington runners were in the top 20 overall.

Matt Lawler was 11th in 19:49, Michael Hao was 14th in 20:59 and Evan Cummings finished 15th in 21:22.

Rounding out Wilmington's top 10 runners were Lucas Madden, 16th in 22:31, Theo Adamek, 17th in 22:45, and Tommy Roofe, 18th in 22:54.

GIRLS SOCCER WINS TWO

The Wilmington High girls soccer team beat Tewksbury and Melrose and tied Belmont in recent action.

WHS was 6-3-3 after the trio of matches.

In a 2-1 win against Tewksbury, the Wildcats jumped ahead early.

Inside the first five minutes of the game, Cate MacDonald was taken down in the box and the official called the penalty kick. Assigned to take it

was Ali McElligott and she placed it past the goalie to give the Wildcats the lead.

Late in the first half, Tewksbury equalized off of a corner kick that hit a defender from Wilmington and went in the net.

The second half showed two equal teams battling to score.

Luckily for WHS, McElligott was able to break through on the left side and play a through ball to MacDonald, who managed to place the ball around the goalkeeper and in the net.

On Monday, WHS beat Melrose, 1-0.

After a scoreless first half, the Wildcats scored in the 30th minute of the second half.

Emily Falk broke up a play in the middle of the field, drove the ball up field, and found MacDonald with a through ball. MacDonald was able to get around the goalkeeper and place the ball in the back of the net to give the Wildcats the win.

Last Wednesday, Wilmington and Belmont played to a scoreless draw.

GOLFERS DROP TWO

The Wilmington High golf team dropped two recent matches to Belmont



and Lexington.

Nonetheless, the Wildcats have enjoyed a tremendous season with a record of 7-5.

Lexington beat Wilmington, 44.5-27.5 at Lexington GC.

Will Poyant played well in the loss for WHS.

Belmont topped Wilmington 40.5-31.5 at Belmont CC.

Ryan Archer was the lone winner for Wilmington, but Nate Anderson, Nick Poeck, and Poyant all battle for ties.

FIELD HOCKEY TIES MELROSE

In action last week, the Wilmington High field hockey team lost to Belmont on Thursday by an 8-0 score, but battled to a 2-2 tie with Melrose on Tuesday.

"We lost 3-0 the first time we faced them so it showed growth," said WHS coach Leanne Ebert. "We were happy with it."

Wilmington took a 1-0 lead when junior Danielle Chillemi scored in the early moments of the first quarter.

Melrose actually rallied to take a 2-1 lead in the second half, but the Wildcats would tie it when senior Leah Murphy scored with 3:20 to go.

Tuesday, Wilmington played Stoneham before a Thursday home game against Reading starting at 4:15 p.m.

BOYS SOCCER STILL COMPETITIVE

In recent action, the Wilmington High boys soccer team battled Stoneham to a 0-0 tie on Monday, lost 2-0 to Wakefield last Friday

and lost one-goal games to both Belmont (2-1) and Melrose (1-0).

This week, Wilmington played in Reading on Wednesday before a Saturday night game in Watertown at 6 p.m.

Wilmington has been led this season by senior tri-captains Owen Fitzpatrick, Jon Mehr and Joseph Glaser.

Other seniors on the squad include Nicolas Spinosa, Chase Heffernan, Vincent Vindice, Dennis DeSouza and Vijay Cudia.

Signature victory

Wilmington High football knocks off undefeated Stoneham

By DOUG HASTINGS
Sports Correspondent
sports@yourtowncrier.com

The plan all along for first-year Wilmington High football coach Joe Cavanaugh was to turn the Wildcats around.

But even Cavanaugh likely didn't expect things to unfold this quickly.

On Friday night in Stoneham, Wilmington sent shockwaves throughout the Middlesex League with a 14-6 upset of the Spartans, handing Stoneham its first loss of the year and improving WHS to 4-1 as the 'Cats prepare to play Wakefield this Friday night.

"We limited our turnovers and we just battled," said Cavanaugh after the win. "To play that (Stoneham) offense for 48 minutes and they only scored six points? It was a physical game and out kids just hung in, hung in and hung in and made plays when we had to."

"The last few years, (Stoneham) sang their victory song on our field and they've beat us by a lot," said senior lineman Noah Matton. "This is such a nice way to start getting deep

into league play."

Wilmington trailed 6-0 after Stoneham scored on its first possession of the game, but the Wildcat defense didn't allow another point.

WHS took the lead late in the second quarter.

After the defense forced Stoneham to turn the ball over on downs at the WHS 35-yard line, Wilmington moved 65 yards in eight plays, scoring a touchdown on a fourth-and-goal play from the 6-yard line when quarterback Mark Holleran hit senior Colin Allard with a touchdown pass. Senior Cam Pereira's extra point barely dropped over the crossbar to make it 7-6 with 3:17 left in the half.

Keys plays on the way to the end zone included a personal foul penalty against Stoneham, a 19-yard run by junior Ayden Bellevy and a 23-yard scamper by Holleran that moved the ball to the 9-yard line.

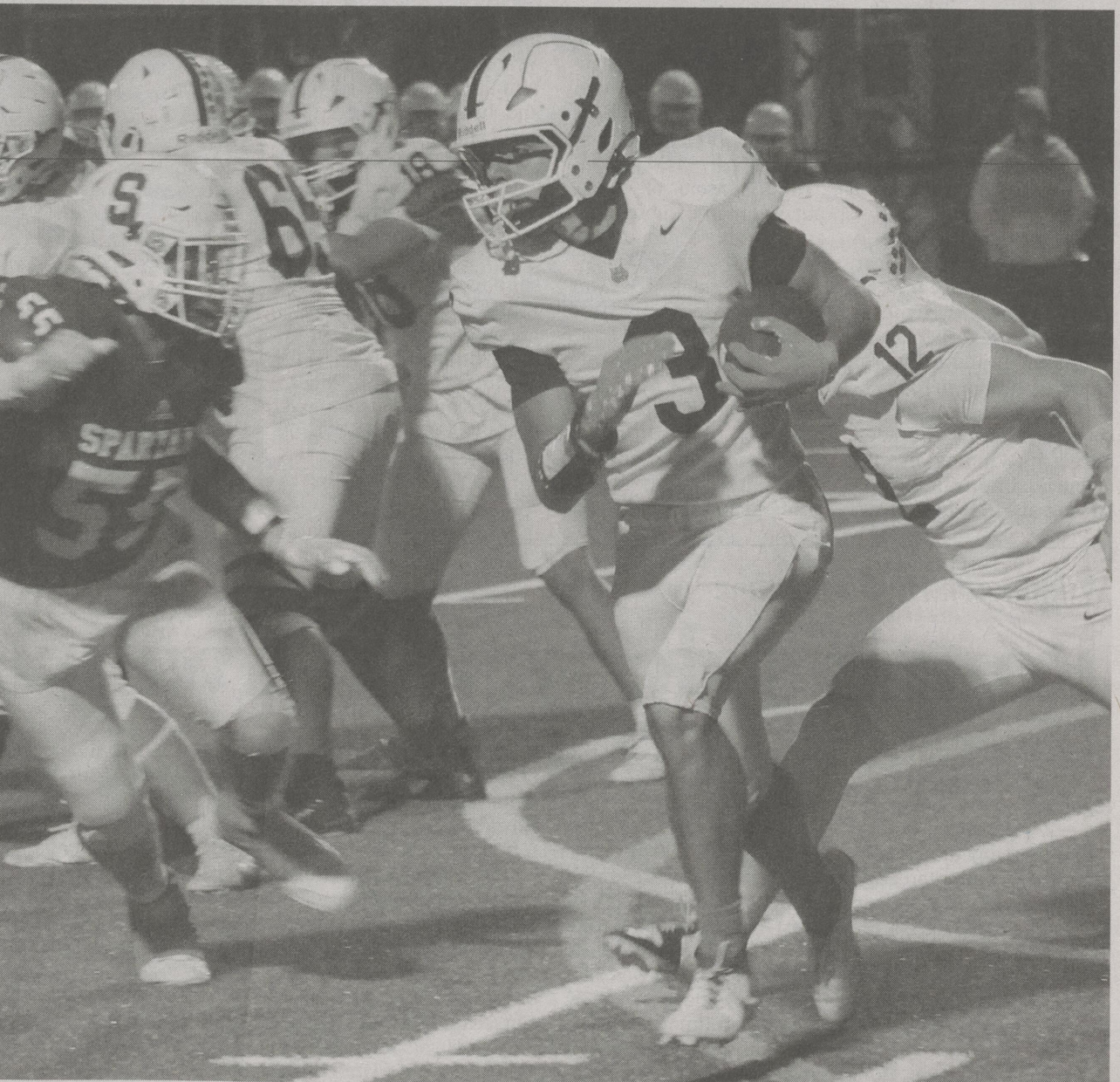
The Wildcats nearly added to their lead to start the second half, moving 45 yards to the

Spartan 7-yard line

FOOTBALL | PAGE B7W

► Cam Pereira runs the ball for Wilmington.

(Doug Hastings photo)



WHS football beats undefeated Stoneham

FOOTBALL FROM PAGE B6W

before eventually turning the ball over on downs.

A 15-yard run by Bellevy and a 2-yard run by Holleran on a fourth-and-one play helped set up the scoring chance for the 'Cats.

Stoneham responded with a good drive of its own, piling up five first downs and moving to Wilmington's 22-yard line before tackles by Bellevy and senior Pat DeLucia on the first two downs brought up third-and-13 from the 25. After a 7-yard gain by Stoneham, senior Timmy Watsob stopped Colin Stering's run to turn the ball over on downs.

"We told them all week

that it was going to be a heavyweight fight," Cavanaugh said.

"And they were up for it."

"They're a real strong team up front, a lot of big kids," said WHS senior lineman Noah Matton, a senior captain. "This year we just have a different energy and a different feel. I couldn't be prouder of the guys around me."

The defensive stand was crucial.

Three plays later, Holleran hit Allard with a pass that Allard turned into a 79-yard touchdown connection with 8:13 left in the game.

"Mark made a great read and got the ball to Colin and Colin did the rest,"

Cavanaugh said. "That was an unbelievable run after the catch."

"I'm not the fastest one," laughed Allard. "But I made a guy miss and I got blocks down the field from Cam Pereira and Joey Cavanaugh. That's all that matters."

Pereira added another extra point to make it 14-6.

Stoneham had plenty of time to tie the score and nearly did, moving from its own 44-yard line to the Wilmington 19 with three minutes left.

The Spartans earned three first downs on the drive including a 5-yard run by Stering on fourth-and-three from the 24-yard line with 3:51 to go.

On first down from the 19, junior Theodore Bryson stopped Stering for a 3-yard loss before two runs by Pedro DeSilveria set up a fourth-and-two from the 11-yard line with 1:28 left. That's when DeLucia stepped up for the 'Cats and stopped Stering at the 10-yard line to end the game.

The drive had some terrible news for Wilmington as Watson left the game with an injured elbow that was suspected to be a serious injury at the time.

"He's our heart and soul on defense," said Cavanaugh of Watson. "The kid is just incredible. We're just hoping for the best."

"He's the life of the team," added Allard.

It was the second scary injury of the evening as Stoneham's Peter Boccelli was hurt in the first quarter and left the game in an ambulance after also injuring an elbow. Boccelli had three carries for 23 yards, including an 8-yard gain on the play that saw him suffer an injury, and was a major factor in Stoneham's offensive attack.

The Spartans still ended up scoring when DeSilveria pounded into the end zone from 1 yard out with 5:26 left in the opening stanza.

The 'Cats punted away their first drive and Stoneham had a chance to take command early, but a drive that reached the Wilmington 34-yard line ended. Watson had a big hit on first down, Bryson



▲ WHS senior Camden Gray (1) tries to tackle a Stoneham player during last Friday's game.

(Doug Hastings photo)

and senior Gabe Borges combined for a sack on second down and Bryson's pass rush on third down forced an incomplete pass and set up a fourth-and-11.

The fourth-down pass was incomplete and Wilmington took the lead on its next possession.

The Spartans were unable to score on their last drive of the first half.

On a first down from midfield, DeSilveria was stopped at the line of scrimmage before Watson hit quarterback Sean Powers for a 2-yard loss on second down. Borges's pass rush forced an incomplete pass on third down and Stoneham punted on fourth down.

Wilmington nearly turned the ball over when the punt was mishandled, but Watson recovered the fumble.

With former Wilmington head coaches Bob Almeida and Mike Barry now at Stoneham and a large contingent of former Wilmington players and coaches working for WHS, Cavanaugh admitted the atmosphere was special on Friday in Stoneham.

"I'm close to Bob and Mike, we're all friendly," said Cavanaugh. "They're great coaches."

I learned so much from them. If it wasn't for them, I wouldn't have gotten into coaching."



▲ Colin Allard makes a move after making a catch.

(Doug Hastings photo)

Shawsheen Tech Roundup:

Big game for Ram football team Friday

By DOUG HASTINGS
Sports Correspondent

sports@yourtowncrier.com

The Shawsheen Tech football team has a big game on Friday at home.

Northeast Regional of Wakefield will visit Cook Street for a 7 p.m. game that could decide the Commonwealth Athletic Conference's Large School title.

The Golden Knights bring a 4-1 record into the contest.

After falling to Pentucket Regional to start the season, 26-22, Northeast has won four games in a row with non-league triumphs over Winthrop, Bay Path Regional, Malden and Medford.

Northeast boasts a solid defense this season. In its four wins, Northeast has outscored its opponents 104-21 with two shutouts including a 34-0 blanking of Medford last week.

The Knights and Rams do have one common opponent this season.

Northeast beat Winthrop by a 14-7 score while the Rams hammered Winthrop, 35-0.

Shawsheen is 5-0 heading into the game and has allowed only 26 points all season long with shutouts over Winthrop and Norwood along with a 41-6 win over Lynnfield and a 14-7 victory on the road against St. Mary's of Lynn.

Shawsheen's toughest test was a 20-13 win over Bedford on opening night.

Last year, the Rams beat Northeast by a 34-8 score.

VOLLEYBALL DROPS TWO

Shawsheen Tech's volleyball team suffered a pair of defeats in recent action although a 3-2 loss to Concord-Carlisle was a big improvement from a 3-0 loss to the Patriots early in the season.

The Rams also lost to Greater Lowell by a 3-2 score.

Against C-C, Shawsheen was down 2-0 and fought back to push to five sets but came up short in the final, 25-22, 25-14, 21-25, 12-25, 15-8.

Francesca Reardon led the way for Shawsheen with 17 kills, eight digs, three blocks and two aces.

Hope DiDonato had 10 kills and two blocks and



▲ Dyllon Pratt (7) and the Rams try to block a kick against St. Mary's.

(Joe Brown photo)

Maura Krueger added three aces, two kills, 32 assists and seven digs.

Isabella DiSalvo and Carley Monteiro held down the defense with nine and five digs, respectively.

Also playing well for the Rams were Paige Martin and Evelyn Keane, stepping up in crucial moments of play.

The Rams (8-5) had other recent matches against Westford Academy and Lowell Catholic and return to the court on Thursday when they the Innovation Academy Charter School at 5:30 p.m.

BOYS SOCCER FALLS

The Shawsheen Tech boys

soccer team played one game last week, falling to a talented Tyngsborough team, 6-1.

The Rams dipped to 4-6 overall.

Scoring for Shawsheen was Gavin Rosa with Davide Vitale earning the assist.

This week, Shawsheen has a home-and-home matchup with Greater Lowell. After visiting the Gryphons on Tuesday, Shawsheen hosts Greater Lowell on Thursday at 4 p.m.

GIRLS SOCCER NEEDS BIG FINISH

With a pair of recent losses, the Shawsheen Tech girls soccer team's record

▲ Jake Banda and the Ram football team will host Northeast on Friday.

(Joe Brown photo)

dipped to 4-8-1 overall.

The Rams lost to Groton-Dunstable by a 4-0 score on Oct. 6 before falling to Mystic Valley Regional Charter School by a 2-1 score on Oct. 10.

Shawsheen has upcoming games on Thursday at Whittier Tech in Haverhill at 4 p.m. before hosting Nashoba Valley Tech next Tuesday at 4 p.m.

Shawsheen beat Whittier and tied Nashoba earlier in the year.

GOLF TEAM WINS CAC CHAMPIONSHIP

The Shawsheen Tech golf team captured the Commonwealth Athletic Conference 18-hole championship title, bringing home the trophy with an impressive team score of 296.

Leading the way for the Rams was Max Carpenter, who shot a 1-over 72 to earn Low Medalist honors for the tournament. He was closely followed by Jake Carr with a 73, Ryan Dodge with a 75, and both Joe DaSilva and Tyler Frediani, who each carded 76.

With the conference championship under their belts, the Rams now turn their focus to the State Sectionals at Heritage Country Club in Charlton, MA.

The Rams closed out their regular season in style, defeating Greater Lawrence 180-140 to finish with an outstanding 14-1 record.

Jake Carr led the way as low medalist, carding a 37 with 32 points.

Other strong scores for Shawsheen included Andrew Polly with a 38 and 31 points, Tyler Frediani with a 38 and 30 points, Carpenter with a 38 and 30 points, Joe DaSilva with a 39 and 29 points and Nate

es came from Jake Carr with a 38 and 33 points, Ryan Dodge with a 41 and 28 points, Tyler Frediani with a 41 and 27 points and Nate DiSchino with a 42 and 27 points.

CROSS COUNTRY SWEPT BY LOWELL CATHOLIC

The Shawsheen Tech cross country teams went against Lowell Catholic last week.

The Ram boys lost to LC, 23-33.

Shawsheen was led by Joe McKenna, Luke Carceco, and Lorenzo Rankin.

The Rams girls also lost to LC, 23-33.

Leading the way were Eloise Krochune, Gracie Gaffney, and Ellie Matheison.

The boys fell to 3-3 on the year while the girls dropped to 2-4.

Shawsheen wrapped up the regular season on Wednesday with a home meet against Greater Lawrence.



▲ Shawsheen Tech's Eloise Krochune surges to third in 23:35 during Wednesday's cross country meet in Billerica.

(Credit Image: James Thomas)



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OBITUARIES

Robert W. ‘Bob’ Holbrook Inducted into Malden High Hall of Fame

Robert W. “Bob” Holbrook, age 86, a long-time resident of Wilmington, passed away peacefully on Oct. 10, 2025, surrounded by his loved ones.

Bob was born on Sept. 30, 1939, in Malden, the son of the late William W. and Conchetta “Connie” (Cangiamila) Holbrook. He was raised in Malden, where he graduated from Malden High School, excelling as both a student and athlete.

Among his proudest accomplishments, Bob developed and coached Malden High School’s first cross-country team, he was a member of the winning team at the Penn Relays and was inducted into the Malden High Hall of Fame for his contributions to track and field.

After high school, Bob attended Essex Tech where he majored in Horticulture and also coached their cross-country team.

He started his own landscaping business at the age of 19, a testament to his entrepreneurial spirit. Bob went on to earn a degree in Management Information Systems from Boston University and Northeastern University.

Bob’s professional career was highlighted by his 32 years at Raytheon, where he served as a Division Supervisor of Data Processing. His knowledge, work ethic, and engaging personality made him a beloved figure within the company and beyond.

In 1960, Bob met the love of his life, Ruth Mailett, and they married shortly thereafter. Together, they raised four children in Wilmington and shared 60 wonderful years of marriage until Ruth’s passing.

Bob was a dedicated and loving husband and father, deeply involved in the lives of his children. He coached youth track and baseball, served as an assistant Cub Scout leader, and was a constant presence at every school event, sporting activity, and special occasion.

Bob’s love for his family extended to his grandchildren, whom he adored and cherished. He was affectionately

known as “Papa” and never missed an opportunity to support and encourage his grandchildren in all their endeavors.

A man of strong faith, Bob was an active communicant at St. Thomas Church in Wilmington for many years, where he served as the Director of Religious Education and taught CCD classes for over 15 years. He and Ruth were also members of the Church Choir. Bob’s commitment to his faith was unwavering, and he found great joy in helping others.

Bob’s generosity extended beyond his church, as he dedicated time to the Wilmington Lions Club, where he served as president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. He was also honored with a leadership award for his contributions to the club.

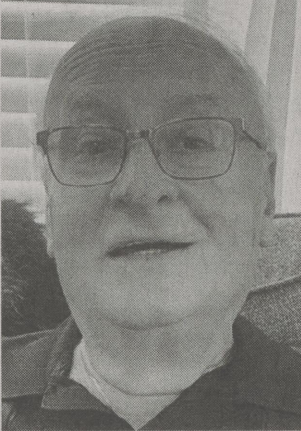
Additionally, Bob was a member of the Wilmington Knights of Columbus and more recently was involved with the welcoming committee at Heatherwood Retirement Home.

An avid sports fan, Bob loved watching the Boston teams — Patriots, Red Sox, Bruins, and Celtics — and was thrilled to witness their many championships. He also enjoyed playing cards, chess, golf, singing, dancing, and reading every day, often sharing his knowledge and enthusiasm for these activities with his family and friends.

Bob had a passion for camping and traveling within the United States and abroad. Some of his favorite trips included Aruba, Spain, and Ireland where he and Ruth made many special friends who they enjoyed visiting throughout the years. Bob and Ruth looked forward to their winters in Florida where they had many friends.

Bob’s warmth, kindness, and boundless love will live on in the hearts of all who knew him. He was a man who truly made the world a better place, and his legacy will continue through his family, friends, and the countless lives he touched.

Bob was predeceased by his



beloved wife, Ruth. He is survived by his children, Ann Palmer of Lunenburg, Gary Holbrook and his wife Kathy of Chelmsford, Michelle Mugford and her husband Scott of Dracut, and Steven Holbrook of East Boston; his grandchildren, Nick Palmer, Danny Palmer and his wife Rebecca, Lauren Holbrook, Drew Holbrook, Samantha Mugford, Nathan Mugford, Jessica Jones and her husband Phil, Amanda Gagne, Gerard Gagne, Ashley Martinez, and great-grandchildren Riley, Kyla, Jace, Sean, and Ben.

Dear brother of Janet Holbrook of Florida, the late Vincent Holbrook and the late Dennis Holbrook. Bob is also survived by his dear friend Dora Carr, as well as many special nieces, nephews, and friends.

A visitation was held at the Nichols Funeral Home, 187 Middlesex Ave. (Rte. 62), Wilmington, MA, on Thursday, Oct. 16, from 9 - 10:30 a.m., followed by a Funeral Mass at St. Thomas of Villanova Church, 126 Middlesex Ave., Wilmington, at 11 a.m. Interment will take place in Wildwood Cemetery, Wilmington.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations in Bob’s memory be made to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105, or the Alzheimer’s Association, 320 Nevada St., Suite 201, Newton, MA 02460 or online at alz.org.

To leave a message of condolence for the family please visit our website at www.nicholsfuneralhome.com

Stephen Francis Scanlon Winningest coach in Wilmington high history

Stephen Francis Scanlon, 63, of Wilmington, passed away peacefully surrounded by his loving family on Oct. 12, 2025.

A lifelong Wilmington resident, Steve was known for his humor, confidence, devotion to family, and his larger-than-life presence that made him a force to be reckoned with both on and off the field and ice.

Born on April 11, 1962, to Richard “Dick” Scanlon and Kathleen “Kay” (Hoban) Scanlon, Steve was the second oldest of four siblings. From a young age, he developed a love for sports and could often be found outside skating with a stick or kicking a ball. He was an avid fan of the Bruins, Red Sox, Patriots, and Manchester United and carried that same competitive spirit throughout his life.

Steve graduated from Wilmington High School in 1980, where he was a three-sport athlete in soccer, hockey, and baseball. His dedication and skill on the field and ice earned him a place at Curry College, where he continued his athletic career as an attacking forward in soccer and a defenseman in hockey. He was admired by teammates for his fierce work ethic and unwavering commitment to his teams.

During his senior soccer season, he helped lead the team to the Division 2 North sectional semifinals, just one year after they had won only a single game. He and teammate Jimmy Burns combined to score 25 of the team’s 40 goals. Steve ranks sixth all-time in Curry College soccer history for career assists.

After graduating from Curry College in 1985 with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology, Steve continued his education at Salem State University, where he earned a Master of Science in School Counseling in 1989. This led to a position in the guidance department at Timberlane Regional High School in Plaistow, NH, where he worked for 31 years until his retirement in 2025.

Steve’s coaching career began immediately after his playing days ended. He served as Methuen High’s head soccer coach during the 1985 and 1986 seasons, capturing his first MVC Division 2 title.

That same year, he joined Wilmington High School as the JV hockey coach, later being promoted to head varsity coach for the 1991-92 season. After taking three seasons off from soccer to attend graduate school, he returned to the sport in 1990 when he was named head coach at Westford Academy.

In over 35 seasons, including stints at Methuen and Westford Academy, Steve compiled an extraordinary coaching record of 724-503-246. He guided Westford to a Division 2 state soccer title in 1992 and led Wilmington High School’s hockey team to back-to-back Division 2 state championships in 2012 and 2013.

In addition, Steve’s teams captured seven sectional championship titles and 19 league titles across five different leagues — the MVC, DCL, Mid-Wach, CAL, and Middlesex League — including six consecutive league titles in hockey and ten in 19 years in the Cape Ann League.

He remains the winningest coach in Wilmington High School history, with 386 hockey wins, and ranks fifth all-time with 209 soccer victories.

Steve was honored as Coach of the Year by numerous media outlets over 20 times. His teams won the Cape Ann League Sportsmanship Award four consecutive years. He was inducted into the Wilmington High School Hall of Fame and both the Massachusetts State Coaches’ Soccer and Hockey Association Halls of Fame, also earning recognition as part of three Hall of Fame state championship teams.

Though his coaching career faced an unexpected and unfair ending in May 2025, Steve’s dedication to his players, his school, and his community never wavered. He remained proud of the impact he made and the countless young athletes he mentored over the years. Most of all, he cherished the opportunity to coach at his alma mater.

While sports and education were integral parts of Steve’s life, his greatest joy came from his family. He met the love of his life, Tina (Vatcher), in 1991. The two began dating and were married in June 1996. Together, they built a beautiful life in Wilmington. In January 1998, they welcomed twins, Colin and Siobhan, followed by their youngest daughter, Shailagh, in June 2000.

Steve took great pride in being a husband and father. He was always protective, supportive, and devoted. He enjoyed vacationing in Seabrook, NH, and Casey Key, FL, as well as celebrating holidays surrounded by family.

Steve loved concerts and nights out with Tina and friends. He could often be found sitting by the fire pit with a Bud Light on summer nights, watching his children play sports, or listening to



stories from their lives. He was known for texting his children to make sure they arrived safely wherever they went, a simple yet meaningful expression of his care.

Beyond his accomplishments, Steve will be remembered for his great sense of humor, inspiring pep talks, memorable one-liners, and entertaining storytelling. He leaves behind a legacy of confidence, loyalty, and love that will forever live in the hearts of those who knew him.

Steve is survived by his devoted wife, Tina, of 29 years; his children, Colin Scanlon (and partner Stephanie McConnell), Siobhan Scanlon (and fiancé Ethan Bowe), and Shailagh Scanlon. He is also survived by his siblings, Richard Scanlon, Susan Carter and her husband, Chris, and Michael Scanlon; as well as many nieces, nephews, and friends.

He was predeceased by his beloved parents, Richard and Kathleen Scanlon.

Steve’s legacy lives on in the countless lives he touched as a coach, mentor, husband, father, brother, uncle, and friend. His passion, loyalty, and love will continue to inspire all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Family and friends are invited to celebrate Steve’s life during visiting hours on Friday, Oct. 17, from 3 - 7 p.m. at Nichols Funeral Home, 187 Middlesex Ave. (Rt. 62), Wilmington. A Funeral Mass will be held on Saturday, Oct. 18, at 10:30 a.m. at St. Dorothy’s Catholic Church, Main St. (Rt. 38), Wilmington, (please go directly to Church) followed by burial at Wildwood Cemetery.

Donations in Steve’s memory may be mailed to the Salgi Esophageal Cancer Foundation: The Salgi Foundation, PO Box 1912, East Greenwich, RI 02818.

To leave a message of condolence for the family please visit our website at www.nicholsfuneralhome.com

Richard F. ‘Dick’ Murphy Enlisted in the United States Navy

Richard F. “Dick” Murphy, age 83, of Wilmington, passed away peacefully on Oct. 7, 2025 at Lahey Hospital surrounded by his family.

Dick was born on Sept. 16, 1942, in Medford, as the cherished son of the late Richard F. Murphy and Mary M. (Lane) Murphy. He grew up in Malden with his parents and sister until his father’s untimely passing when Dick was only 9.

A hard working young man, he took on a local paper route and many other jobs including working on the passenger boats at Rowes Wharf to help support his family. Dick considered himself very fortunate to attend Saint Joseph School in Malden and Malden Catholic High School, graduating in 1960.

Immediately after high school, at the age of 17, Dick enlisted in the United States Navy. After qualifying as an Electronics Technician, he fulfilled his dream to join the submarine force with his first assignment on the USS Caiman (SS-323) where he earned his dolphins.

Dick was then amongst the first cohorts of sailors to go through the Navy’s nascent nuclear training pipeline. Upon completion of his training, he was first assigned to the USS Skipjack (SSN-585) where he served as a reactor operator.

He was subsequently selected to become an instructor at the Navy Nuclear Power School after successfully navigating an interview with Hyman Rickover. Dick’s final tour was on the USS Shark (SSN-589), for a single patrol, where he and the crew were awarded the Navy Unit Commendation in connection with special operations conducted in the North Atlantic.

He left the Navy shortly thereafter in late 1967 at the rank of Petty Officer First Class.

Upon leaving the Navy, Dick returned home to Malden and began applying his technical skills and nuclear knowledge in the private sector by day while earning his Bachelor’s Degree in Electrical Engineering from North-

eastern University at night.

Dick’s impressive intellect and creativity resulted in multiple inventions and patents in the area of process control by using radioactive isotopes to accurately measure the thickness of materials such as paper and plastics.

Dick co-founded Aeon Systems, which later operated as EGS Gauging until it was acquired by Thermo Fisher Scientific. He worked with many business partners and colleagues over his career and treasured those relationships and the experience of traveling all around the world as the business expanded.

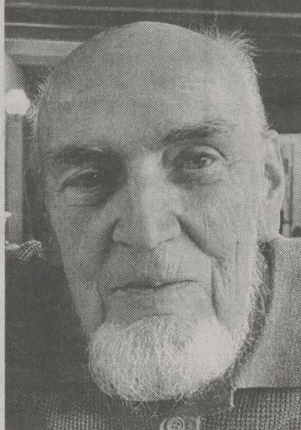
In December 1969, Dick visited the Boston City Club, where he met a young lady named Christine from Cork, Ireland. A nice conversation turned into an offer to drive her home, which led to Dick helping Christine get her car fixed the next day.

Dick and Christine were inseparable since, spending more than 54 wonderful years together. They married in 1971 and bought a home in Wilmington, where they raised their two children.

Dick was a very dedicated family man and the hero of his wife, son, daughter and grandson. He spent countless hours with his cherished grandson and continually sought and found ways to be of service to his family and others.

Dick was a constant and steady source of wisdom and support in every aspect of life. He was a faithful Catholic throughout his life and a wonderful example to his family and friends. The quiet twinkle of Dick’s eyes revealed the deep love that he had for his family and beloved friends and his gentle sense of humor made him a joy to be around.

Dick loved woodworking and carpentry and could build or fix almost anything. Many of the rooms in the family’s homes were beautifully finished and furnished by his handiwork. Dick also loved spending time at the family’s home in Freedom, New Hampshire, visiting beloved family in Ireland and many vacations to Hawaii.



Dick was the beloved husband of Hannah Christine (Desmond) Murphy of Wilmington. He was the loving father of Richard Murphy of Sterling, VA and Siobhan Murphy of Reading.

Dick was the cherished “Papa” to his grandson Sean Murphy of Reading. He is survived by his sister Mary Patricia Vozzella and her husband Robert of Wilmington.

He is also survived by his sisters-in-law Alice Skehan

of Scituate, Mary Looney of Macroom, County Cork, Ireland, Esther O’Callaghan and her husband Henry of Lissarda, County Cork, Ireland, and many beloved nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Family and friends were invited to gather for Visiting Hours at the Nichols Funeral Home, 187 Middlesex Ave (Rt. 62) Wilmington, on Tuesday Oct. 14 from 4 - 7 p.m. A Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. Dorothy’s Church, Main St. (Rt. 38), Wilmington, on Wednesday Oct. 15 at 10:30 a.m. Interment with military honors followed at Wildwood Cemetery in Wilmington.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a charitable contri-

bution to The Malden Catholic Fund, c/o Office of Advancement, 99 Crystal Street, Malden, MA 02148.

To leave a message of condolence for the family, please visit our website at www.nicholsfuneralhome.com

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MERCURY RECOVERY PROGRAM

Mercury is an element that can be harmful to human health and the environment if not disposed of properly.

Mercury is found in products such as:

Thermostats

Thermometers

Mercury Switches

Fluorescent Lamps

Please contact your local Board of Health or Department of Public Works for information on where to safely dispose of these items.

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LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF TEWKSBURY
BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Tewksbury Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on **October 30, 2025, at 6:30 P.M.**, in the Tewksbury Town Hall, 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876, for an application filed by **Bryan Scharfel** for a variance from Section 5.3.2 of the Tewksbury Zoning Bylaw, for rear setbacks to construct a rear deck as shown on plans filed with the Board.

Said property is located at **5 CAMPBELL CR.** Assessor's Map 61, Lot 99 zoned Residence 40 (R40).

The application may be examined on the Zoning Board of Appeals webpage of the Town of Tewksbury's website at www.tewksbury-ma.gov. Should other accommodations be necessary to view the application, please call the Community Development Office at 978-640-4370. Legal Notice can also be viewed on www.masspublicnotices.org

Nancy Rego, Chair
251058 10/16,23/25

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF TEWKSBURY,
MASSACHUSETTSDEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC WORKS

INVITATION TO BID

Sealed Bids for **Water Leak Detection (Contract PW-26-10) and Hydrant Replacement (Contract PW-26-11)** will be received by the Town of Tewksbury at the Department of Public Works office, 999 Whipple Road, Tewksbury, MA 01876, until 11:00 AM, on October 23, 2025 at that

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND
FAMILY COURT

Middlesex Probate
and Family Court
10-U Commerce Way
Woburn MA, 01801

CITATION GIVING NOTICE
OF PETITION FOR
APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN
FOR INCAPACITATED
PERSON PURSUANT TO
G.L. c. 190B, §5-304

Docket No. MI25P076GD

In the matter of:
Kerry Perkins

RESPONDENT Alleged
Incapacitated Person

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Tewksbury Hospital**, in the above captioned matter alleging that **Kerry Perkins** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that / **Sara Spooner**, (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary,

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND
FAMILY COURT

Middlesex Probate
and Family Court
10-U Commerce Way
Woburn, MA 01801
(781) 865-4000

CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Docket No. MI25P5368EA

Estate of:
William A. Davies
Date of Death: 07/29/2025

To all interested persons:

A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by **Rebecca G. Lynch of Reading MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Rebecca G. Lynch of Reading MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF TEWKSBURY
BOARD OF APPEALS

Notice is hereby given that the Tewksbury Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on **October 30, 2025, at 6:30 P.M.**, in the Tewksbury Town Hall, 1009 Main Street, Tewksbury, MA 01876, for an application filed by **Elizabeth Moreira** for a variance from Section 5.3.2 of the Tewksbury Zoning Bylaw, for side setbacks to construct a 6'x8' deck as shown on plans filed with the Board.

Said property is located at **14 WISCONSIN RD.** Assessor's Map 82, Lot 66 zoned Residence 40 (R40)

The application may be examined on the Zoning Board of Appeals webpage of the Town of Tewksbury's website at www.tewksbury-ma.gov. Should other accommodations be necessary to view the application, please call the Community Development Office at 978-640-4370. Legal Notice can also be viewed on www.masspublicnotices.org

Nancy Rego, Chair
251055 10/16,23/25

time and place bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

The contracts listed above will be for yearly work up to a period of three years total.

Contract Documents are available after 8:00 AM local time on Monday, September 15, 2025 by requesting a set via email to DLizotte@tekwksbury-ma.gov. No monetary deposit is required to obtain the documents. Contract Documents may also be examined, but not obtained, at the DPW office during the following hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

John Curran
Town Manager
Tewksbury, Massachusetts
251008 10/2,9,16/25

and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 10/27/2025. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Terri L. Klug Cafazzo, First Justice of this Court.
Date: September 30, 2025

Tara E. DeCristofaro,
Register of Probate
251045 10/16/25

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 11/07/2025.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED
ADMINISTRATION UNDER
THE MASSACHUSETTS
UNIFORM PROBATE
CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Terri L. Klug Cafazzo, First Justice of this Court.
Date: October 10, 2025

Tara E. DeCristofaro,
Register of Probate
251113 10/16/25

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF TEWKSBURY
TREE WARDEN

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with Massachusetts General Laws (MGL), Chapter 87, Public Shade Tree Law, Section 3 (Cutting of Public Shade Trees; Hearing; Damages), the Town of Tewksbury Tree Warden will hold a Public Hearing regarding the removal of trees within the right-of-way on **Thursday, October 23, 2025, at 10:00 a.m.** at the Tewksbury DPW, 999 Whipple Road, Tewksbury, MA. Any person interested or wishing to be heard on this matter should appear at the time and place designated or submit a written objection with your name and address prior to the date and time listed.

The proposed tree removal is at the request of a resident.

The trees being requested for removal are within the right-of-way located in front of 283 Pleasant Street. The species and size are as follows:

- (1) - 2" Sumac
- (1) - 2" Cherry
- (1) - 3" Amur Maple - multi-leader

Objections can be made in writing at the time of the hearing or sent to the attention of the Tree Warden at the Tewksbury Department of Public Works, 999 Whipple Road, Tewksbury, MA 01876 prior to the hearing.

Kevin Hardiman, P.E.
Director of Public Works
Tree Warden
251049 8/9/25

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND
FAMILY COURT

Middlesex Probate
and Family Court
10-U Commerce Way
Woburn, MA 01801
(781) 865-4000

CITATION ON PETITION
TO CHANGE NAME

Docket No. MI25C1043CA

In the matter of:
Neilson H. C. Lam

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by **Neilson H. C. Lam of Wilmington MA** requesting that the court enter a formal Decree changing their name to: **Neilson Lim**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: **Middlesex Probate and Family Court** before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 10/31/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

WITNESS, Hon. Terri L. Klug Cafazzo, First Justice of this Court.
Date: October 03, 2025

Tara E. DeCristofaro,
Register of Probate
251071 10/16/25

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND
FAMILY COURT

Suffolk Probate
and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston MA 02114

CITATION GIVING NOTICE
OF PETITION FOR
TERMINATION OF A
CONSERVATOR
Docket No. SU23P2376PM

In the Interests of:
Matthew Matteson
of Tewksbury, MA
RESPONDENT
Incapacitated Person/
Protected Person

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Tewksbury Hospital of Tewksbury, MA** in the above captioned matter requesting that the court: Terminate the Conservatorship.

The petition asks the court to make a determination that the Guardian and/or Conservator should be allowed to resign; or should be removed for good cause; or that the Guardianship and/or Conservatorship is no

LEGAL NOTICES ARCHIVE

All published legal notices are posted to the Massachusetts Public Notices website. To search the archive of previously published legal notices go to:

www.homenewshere.com OR masspublicnotices.org/Search.aspx

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF WILMINGTON
PLANNING BOARD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on **November 4, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.** in Room 9 at Town Hall, 121 Glen Road, Wilmington, MA for a Sign Special Permit #25-05, plan entitled, "MA069 McGovern Hyundai, 271 Main Street, Wilmington, MA 01887"; dated March 11, 2025, prepared by AGI. The application is for the replacement of the existing freestanding sign with a new freestanding sign greater than 15' in height and larger than 50sf. Said property is located at 271 Main Street and shown on Assessor's Map 43 Parcel 4.

A copy of the plan is on file at the Planning & Conservation Department and may be inspected during normal business hours.

Any person interested, or wishing to be heard on the proposed plan, should appear at the time and place designated.

Terence Boland, Chair
Wilmington Planning Board
251072 10/16,23/25

LEGAL NOTICE

TOWN OF WILMINGTON
PLANNING BOARD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on **November 4, 2025 at 7:05 p.m.** in Room 9 at Town Hall, 121 Glen Road, Wilmington, MA for a Site Plan Review Waiver #25-03 and for Section 6.6.7.7 Groundwater Protection District Special Permit #25-03, plan entitled, "Site Improvements, Winchester Hospital, 500 Salem Street, Wilmington, MA 01887"; dated September 30, 2025, prepared by Andrew J. Ruggles, P.L.S. and Carlton M. Quinn, P.E., Allen & Major Associates, Inc., 100 Commerce Way, Woburn, MA 01888-0118. The application is for the installation of a concrete pad and a 20' x 20' storage shed. Said property is located at 500 Salem Street and shown on Assessor's Map 102 Parcel 1A.

A copy of the plan is on file at the Planning & Conservation Department and may be inspected during normal business hours.

Any person interested, or wishing to be heard on the proposed plan, should appear at the time and place designated.

Terence Boland, Chair
Wilmington Planning Board
251073 10/16,23/25



LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND
FAMILY COURT

Middlesex Probate
and Family Court
10-U Commerce Way
Woburn, MA 01801

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF
PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT
OF CONSERVATOR OR OTHER
PROTECTIVE ORDER
PURSUANT TO
G.L. c. 190B, § 5-304 & § 5-405

Docket No. MI25P5073PM

In the matter of:
Nancy Kalivas
Of: Wilmington, MA
RESPONDENT
(Person to be Protected/Minor)

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Ryan Barry o/b/o Willow Brook Rehab of Wilmington, MA** in the above captioned matter alleging that **Nancy Kalivas** is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that **Jessie Mayes of Woburn, MA** (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve **With Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to

determine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 11/03/2025. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Terri L. Klug Cafazzo, First Justice of this Court.
Date: October, 06, 2025

Tara E. DeCristofaro,
Register of Probate
251053 10/16/25

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND
FAMILY COURT

Middlesex Probate
and Family Court
10-U Commerce Way
Woburn, MA 01801

CITATION GIVING NOTICE
OF PETITION FOR
APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN
FOR INCAPACITATED
PERSON PURSUANT TO
G.L. c. 190B, §5-304

Docket No. MI25P5310GD

In the matter of:
Joan Hevey
Of: Tewksbury, MA
RESPONDENT
Alleged Incapacitated Person

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Tewksbury Hospital of Tewksbury MA** in the above captioned matter alleging that **Joan Hevey** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that **Shaun Hevey of Litchfield, NH** (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appoint-

ment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 11/06/2025. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Terri L. Klug Cafazzo, First Justice of this Court.
Date: October 09, 2025

Tara E. DeCristofaro,
Register of Probate
251077 10/16/25

LEGAL NOTICE

COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND
FAMILY COURT

Suffolk Probate
and Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston MA 02114

CITATION GIVING NOTICE
OF PETITION FOR
TERMINATION OF A
GUARDIAN OF AN
INCAPACITATED PERSON

Docket No. SU23P1613GD

In the Interests of:
Matthew Matteson
of Tewksbury, MA
RESPONDENT
Incapacitated Person/
Protected Person

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Tewksbury Hospital of Tewksbury, MA** in the above captioned matter requesting that the court: Terminate the Guardianship.

The petition asks the court to make a determination that the Guardian and/or Conservator should be allowed to resign; or should be removed for good cause; or that the Guardianship

and/or Conservatorship is no long necessary and therefore should be terminated. The original petition is on file with the court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 10/30/2025. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Janine D Rivers, First Justice of this Court.
Date: October 09, 2025

Stephanie L. Everett
Register of Probate
251110 10/16/25

Locals students contribute through Emmanuel Day of Service

BOSTON — More than 360 first-year students at Emmanuel College to make an immediate impact in the community through the New Student Day of Service.

Rising early on the last day of summer vacation, the students volunteered at food shelves, homeless shelters, and other organizations that meet vital community needs through the day of service. The following local students participated:

- Kaylee Heffernan of Wilmington
- Vasilios Meimaris of Wilmington

• Meilik Sreng of Wilmington

In addition to encouraging new students to embrace Emmanuel's rich history of serving the common good, the day of service helped them connect with Boston and each other.

"By engaging with the city from day one, our new Saints began their Emmanuel journey grounded in service, connection, and purpose," said Emmanuel VP of Mission & Ministry Fr. Federico Cinocca. "It sets the tone not only for their year, but for their entire Emmanuel experience."

uel experience."

With more than 80 majors and areas of study, Emmanuel College combines outstanding classroom instruction and real-world experience to prepare students for lives of achievement, learning, and purpose. Voted the #1 college location in America by *Niche.com* in 2023, 2024, and 2025, Emmanuel offers easy access to world-class medical, cultural, and business organizations from 400 The Fenway in Boston.

Learn more at *Emmanuel.edu*.

Project sees reduction of spaces

PLAN FROM PAGE 1

the size of the site's parking lot, which will contain 522 spaces and be pulled away from nearby wetlands buffer zones.

"It's a smaller project in the sense that there's a reduction of 122 spaces and a reduction [of around 14,000 square feet] in impervious surfaces," Jones stated.

Situated in close proximity to I-93, the land in question is part of a larger 14-acre parcel off of Presidential Way that was long utilized by Connecticut-based Porter and Chester Institute, which shuttered its Woburn trade school campus back in 2017.

Back in 2018, the City Council OK'd the initial special permit that enabled Lahey Health System's move to Presidential Way by allowing the creation of a new parking area with 250 parking spaces. At the time, Lahey Health had just become the state's second-largest medical services provider in a merger with Beth Israel Deaconess.

The new plan introduced last week proposes a subdivision of the 14-acre parcel into two plots of land. The first parcel, Lot A, would house the new addition and contain roughly 5 acres. The second lot consists of 8.8 acres and includes an

existing 104,160 square foot office building.

The only member of the City Council to comment on the proposal, Ward 5 Councilor Darlene Mercer-Bruen described the project as completely uncontroversial given that city officials have twice since 2008 OK'd much larger developments.

"I want to echo what the attorney said in that this is absolutely less impactful than what we saw several years ago. I see no reason why we couldn't move on this [tonight]," she later said just before joining her colleagues in unanimously endorsing the petition.

High scores in leadership and organization

SURVEY FROM PAGE 1

one focus area brought up was student ownership of the learning process.

The results showed high scores in leadership and organization in 2025 compared to moderate in 2022. The strengths identified here included collaboration, communication, and fairness, and a focus area was long-term relationships.

Turner said that it was a testament of the school leadership and teachers to show this improvement. He suggested that Cairra work to release the results to the public. Cairra agreed that he planned to do so.

Ragsdale highlighted the importance of lower standard deviation which shows more consistency in answers.

Mercaldi asked about how they would improve culture and communication. Cairra mentioned his goal is to rebrand and remove negative talk, starting with staff.

Mercaldi also wondered how much time was needed to put their recommen-

dations in place. Cairra shared that much of this work would be encapsulated in the school improvement plan to be created for the next two years.

Cairra attributed some of the culture improvement already to programs such as PAWS, "What I Need" block, advisory, good news call of the day, and coffee with administrators.

Dr. Jenn Bryson noted the sense of urgency and the change in the feeling at the middle school. She highlighted the ideas of student ownership and empowerment.

Fennelly also shared that the school feels lighter and it was encouraging that improvement is already underway.

Lastly, interim Superintendent Dr. David Thomson commented that middle school culture is truly important, and he was amazed by the progress made in three years.

OTs moved into school district

STAFFING FROM PAGE 1

3.8 staff positions, as this would be cheaper than finding another agency. He added that he'd spoken with the town and the town suggested they could adopt the cost of providing benefits to these employees.

Turner mentioned that the district provides occupational therapy as required by various students' Individualized Education Programs. He also said that this would benefit the town long-term.

Ragsdale established that the district doesn't anticipate any reduction in the need for occupational therapists or assistants.

The committee, therefore, voted to direct \$200,000 budgeted for services to the hiring of identified staff as full time Wilmington Public Schools employees.

Thomson then explained a note from athletic director Dennis Ingram

that North Reading decided not to own to co-op swim team this year, and instead Wilmington would own and run the program while North Reading continues to participate and pay toward fees. The committee voted to approve this change.

The committee discussed the need to appoint a delegate to the annual Massachusetts Association of School Committees convention. The purpose of the delegate would be to advocate for the resolutions as voted on by the committee.

Dr. Jenn Bryson said she would not be at the conference at that time, and Ragsdale said he would be present but he wouldn't volunteer as the delegate. Becky Lord said she was going to the conference but she might not be able to attend the discussion.

Turner suggested that Lord's time may be better spent in the sessions instead of at the delegate assembly. Fennelly agreed

that there may be little impact of not having their delegate attend the assembly. Nicholas Golden also said he was fine with Lord deciding to go if she sees fit and it would be fine if not. They, therefore, appointed Lord as their delegate.

As for the MASC resolutions, they voted for the delegate to advocate in the same way as the committee had voted on the previous resolutions, and they voted to take no action on the one new resolution proposing banning BMI screening in schools. Turner noted that BMI data is not used in any part of Wilmington education of students or health curriculum, but height and weight data recorded is used to report BMI to the Department of Public Health.

The committee later appointed Fennelly and Bryson as two members to serve on the contract negotiation team with the school cafeteria em-

ployees as their contract expires at the end of this fiscal year.

In subcommittee reports, Mercaldi shared that the outreach subcommittee began brainstorming areas and ideas about outreach by School Committee members so they could develop an action plan.

Golden asked that the outreach subcommittee consider how to distribute the positive middle school AMLE survey results.

Bryson noted that the subcommittee received a lot of ideas to work on, and they needed to review their minutes and prioritize everything mentioned.

Ragsdale added that the policy subcommittee reviewed a number of policies recently including policies on graduation requirements, competency determination, middle school pathways, and student absences.

The committee will meet next on Nov. 5 at 7 p.m.

Harvest and Holly Fair at WUMC on Saturday

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By MICHAEL CASEY
Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) — U.S. Rep. Seth Moulton, a moderate Massachusetts Democrat who represents Wilmington and Tewksbury, said Wednesday that he will challenge U.S. Sen. Edward Markey for the Democratic nomination in next year's Senate race, arguing it's time for the party to embrace a new generation of leadership. The announcement makes the race one of the most anticipated primary contests in the country and pits two of the heavily Democratic state's top politicians against one another. Markey, who fended off a challenge in 2020 from Rep. Joe Kennedy III in the Senate primary, would be 80 before his third six-year



▲ MOULTON

term would begin. In a video accompanying his announcement, Moulton, 46, said the Democratic Party was stuck in the "status quo" and "isn't fighting hard enough." Without naming former President Joe Biden, Moulton referenced the 2024 presidential election, when worries about Biden's age and ability led to his departure

Rep. Moulton challenges Sen. Markey

from the race months before Election Day. The move — and Republican Donald Trump's subsequent victory — reignited concerns among Democrats that the party's leaders were too old and no longer best positioned to win. "We're in crisis, and with everything we learned last election, I just don't believe Sen. Markey should be running for another six-year term at 80 years old," Moulton said in the video. "Even more, I don't think someone who's been in Congress for half a century is the right person to meet this moment and win the future." Moulton, who enlisted in the Marines after the Sept. 11 attacks and served four

tours of duty in Iraq, was first elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 2014. Last year, he ran unopposed. In his announcement, Moulton said he would be focusing his campaign on issues including affordability, health care, banning assault weapons and protecting democracy. "The next generation will keep paying the cost if we don't change course," he said. "This isn't a fight we can put off for another six years. The future we all believe in is on the line." After Democrats lost the White House and both houses of Congress last year, Moulton caught flak from some members of his party for saying he didn't want

his daughters playing in sports against transgender girls. Critics said Moulton echoed Trump's talking points against allowing transgender athletes in girls' and women's sports. "I think that Republicans have a hateful position on trans issues," Moulton told The Associated Press last year, but he insisted that Democrats still lose voters because of the party's "attitude." Markey, for his part, has been here before. He faced a hard-fought challenge from Kennedy in 2020. He turned to his progressive allies to overcome a challenge from a younger rival from America's most famous political family.

During that race, Markey appealed to voters in the deeply Democratic state by positioning himself as aligned with the liberal wing of the party. He teamed up with a leading progressive, New York Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, on the Green New Deal climate change initiative — and at one point labeled Kennedy "a progressive in name only." Markey, who was first elected to Congress in 1976, said in an interview last year on WCVB-TV that he was the "most energized" he had ever been and said he would run again. He argued that it wasn't his age but the age of his ideas, adding that "I've always been the youngest guy in the room."

BOSTON — Responding to ongoing reports of serious issues involving the use of emergency contracts in the state's emergency assistance shelter system, Massachusetts Senate Republicans have put forward comprehensive legislation to reform the use of these types of contracts in order to increase transparency and accountability and strengthen the integrity of emergency procurements involving state funding. The new bill, An Act to promote contract accountability and integrity, contains provisions which include time limits for contracts, increased reviews, and expedited public disclosure of procurements. "Expedited procurements play an important role in responding to emergencies, but their use needs to be limited, tailored to specific emergency conditions, and accompanied by transparency and accountability," said Senate Minority Leader Bruce Tarr (R-Gloucester), the chief sponsor of the legislation. "The provisions of this legislation address serious issues that have been raised by multiple sources over the past several months and would significantly reduce the risk of impropriety whenever an emergency drives procurements." The bill's provisions apply to contracts with a value of

Senate Republicans seeks emergency contract reforms

more than \$100,000, to which the state is a party. They include measures which: • Limit emergency procurements to no more than 90 days, while allowing subsequent 90-day extensions based on written findings of necessity • Require that a procurement officer make a record of each emergency contract as soon as practicable, specifying each contractor's name, expenditure amounts, a listing of the supply or service provided, and the basis for determining the need for an emergency procurement • Require that these records must also detail the cause and circumstances of the emergency, the reasons why it was not reasonably foreseeable, and any identifiable risks arising from not utilizing an emergency contract • Require that a copy of this procurement record be submitted at the earliest possible time to the Secretary of State's office and posted to the office's website in an area dedicated exclusively for posting of procurements • Require that a copy of the procurement record also be submitted to the Inspector General for review, the results of which will be

filed in a report to the state Senate and House of Representatives "Government contracts continue to increase costs at a rate that is unsustainable, carried by Massachusetts residents, and prohibitive to innovation to drive costs down," said State Senator Ryan Fattman (R-Sutton). "By allowing for transparent bidding and more accountability competition will increase and thereby decrease the cost burden for taxpayers. Massachusetts needs to promote and encourage cost controls through innovation and transparency, which is exactly what this legislation will do." The accountability measures included in the new legislation directly respond to ongoing concerns about the lack of transparency and oversight in the state's use of emergency contracts. In May, the Office of the State Auditor released a 74-page report of the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC), outlining a pattern of "improper and unlawful" no-contract bids for the procurement of services for the state's emergency shelter system that lasted far too long. In the report, Auditor Diana DiZoglio found that the EOHLC repeatedly re-

lied on multi-million dollar deals with vendors that drove up taxpayer expenditures in circumstances where officials "should have used the normal procurement process." "This bill places an important safeguard on taxpayer dollars by ensuring that they are spent in an open, responsible, and transparent manner. It promotes honesty and accountability in times of emergency and establishes that no government contract extends too long without warrant or good reason. This bill is a step in the right direction in preserving both the high standards and integrity of the Commonwealth and reinforcing public trust in how we allocate their hard-earned money," said State Senator Patrick M. O'Connor (R-Weymouth). "Transparency between legislators and the public is of the utmost importance to me, and I believe that this legislation provides the accountability framework for that." Other concerns regarding the state's use of no-bid contracts have surfaced following the auditor's report. Just this month, a new report from the Boston Globe found that a non-profit organization which was paid nearly \$10 million by the state for emergency shelter services outsourced meal catering to

a local grocery chain owned by a board member of the same non-profit. The grocery chain won the job without submitting a formal bid or even signing a written contract outlining the services to be provided. "Labeling a situation an 'emergency' should never be a free pass to circumvent transparency or due diligence," said Mary Connaughton, Chief Operating Officer and Director of Government Transparency at the Pioneer Institute, who was quoted in the Globe's reporting on the no-bid contract. "This legislation is a critical step toward restoring trust and ensuring that taxpayer dollars aren't spent through loopholes, but through accountable and clearly documented decisions," said Connaughton, who also served on the Massachusetts Commission on Judicial Conduct and as COO of the State Lottery. Responding to these reports, the new legislation adds restrictions on non-profit organizations involved in a contract to which the state is a party, including: • Subjecting any non-profit entity conducting work under a state contract, grant, or other state funding to the state's contract procurement laws, including adherence to competitive bidding proce-

dures • Subjecting any board member, officer, director or employee of a non-profit seeking or receiving contracts involving state funding to the state's conflict of interest law "We have a responsibility to make sure every taxpayer dollar is spent with integrity and oversight. This bill adds much needed transparency to emergency contracting and holds all recipients of public funds, including non-profits, to high ethical standards. It is a practical measure that promotes accountability, strengthens public trust, and protects taxpayer dollars," said State Senator Kelly Dooner (R-Taunton). "If we have learned anything in the past few years it's that we need to change the way these contracts are managed. The state needs to be fair and accountable in the awarding of contracts. We must be mindful that these are taxpayer dollars which should be frugally expended with very close oversight," State Senator Peter Durant (R-Spencer), said. Having filed the bill, the Senate Republican Caucus will continue advocating for strengthened oversight, transparency, and responsibility in the state's contracting process. The bill will be assigned a docket number by the Senate Clerk in the coming days and now awaits admission to the House and Senate.



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